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**Wednesday December 11 1996** 

Minister 'given wrong advice' 

Gulf war syndrome study announced

# Veterans force retreat

David Fairhall

HE Government yesterday buckled under six years of pressure from veterans' organisations when it announced a major investigation into Gulf war syndrome, the condition it had previously refused to

one of the two studies announced will examine how veterans' fertility has been af-

try to identify possible go beyond research carried out in the US, where this ascomplain of chronic fatigue, memory loss, muscle pains and depression.

The £1.3 million programme, over three years, will involve 12,000 soldiers — 6,000 of them will be veterans of the 1990/91 conflict and the rest will be a comparative group who did not go to the Gulf.

Opposition MPs said the Government's about-turn on the issue was humiliating.
Nicholas Soames, the
Armed Forces Minister, coupled the Commons announce-ment with renewed apologies for misleading Parliament

over the use of dangerous or-gano-phosphate pesticides during the conflict. Emphasising the Govern-ment's desire to be "entirely open" about the matter, Mr nes admitted that Minis try of Defence civil servants and military officials provided ministers with inaccurate information over a period of more than two years. An investigation was being carried out and those

responsible would be disciplined if necessary.

About 51,000 service men and women served in the Gulf. Mr Soames said 921 veterans had been examined. The Government was keeping an "open mind on whether there is generally more illness among our veterans than should be expected and whether there are Gulf-service related factors at work

which, as yet, remain to be discovered". The defence ministry is funding the three-year statis-tical studies recommended by the Medical Research Council. The studies include a general analysis of 3,000 Gulf veterans' medical history fault compensation. Mr compared with the experisce of 3,000 other soliders frustration and personal who served in places such as anguish" of the victims. Bosnia; and a specific investigation, on a similar scale, of

Gulf veterans' reproductive health.

The studies will be coordinated with a third epidemiological study among Britons who served in the Gulf—

more than 1,000 of whom have complained of subsequent illness. The work, funded by the United States, is being carried out at King's College, London. The announcement was im-mediately condemned as "too little, too late" by veterans' representatives. Tony Flint, of the National Guif Veterans

nounced will examine how veterans' fertility has been affected and whether their children show an abnormal incidence of birth defects.

The other study will try to determine whether veterans now suffer more illness and try to identify possible on beyond research carried.

heart condition had been reported among veterans' children, far more than the normal incidence. Mr Soames admitted that

service personnel were vaccinated against anthrax and plague to counter a feared lraqi biological missile attack — until yesterday this was an official military secret. Whooping cough vaccine was also used to boost the anthrax protection. The minister also con-

firmed that organo-phosphate pesticides, similar to sheep dips, which have caused health problems among farmers and are chemically related to nerve gas, were bought from local Saudi Arabians and extensively used - something not disclosed earlier in repeated Par-

liamentary answers.

David Clark, the shadow defence secretary, called Mr Soames's statement "a humiliating climbdown" He added: "Since allegations of Gulf war syndrome came to the fore, we have called on the Government to honour its commitment to veterans. The Government's failure to act earlier has led to three years of uncertainty and suffering for our troops".

Liberal Democrat defence spokesman Menzies Campbell as "a very substantial

humiliation". Mr Soames also faced criticism from Tory backbenchers, such as Edwina Currie, who were concerned about the further uncertainty for their afflicted constituents and about the question of no-



The Guardian investigation which broke the story in 1993



Damon and Michelle Seager with their son Grant: They have said it is just one of those things'

'I do wish sometimes these people could come and look at our little boy and see the sort of things we have to do to enable him just to be here'

child of Damon and Michelle Seager, born in peaceful times after his father's return from the Gulf war, is a long way from walking, writes Sarah

He cannot crawl. He cannot even sit up. He is fed through a tube in his stomach and several times an hour, day and night, his mother or a nurse must suction the saliva out of his throat to stop him choking. Grant cannot swallow. "They do tell us that not swallowing is a very rare condition," said Michelle.

GRANT is 15 months one of those things. I can't the boy and see the sort of things we have to do to encan have such proble

She is 31 and Damon is 28 not old parents, who have a statistically increased chance of babies with birth defects. Michelle thinks Grant's misfortunes stem from his father's service as an army driver in the Gulf. "I think whatever they were subjected to in the Gulf has damaged them in some way and they are

producing bad sperm." She added: "I just think somebody somewhere is responsible for this and I do wish sometimes they could come — these government people — and look at our lit-They have said it is just

things we have to do to en-able him just to be here." When he was born, in

when he was born, in September last year, mother and baby both nearly died. After a preg-nancy full of pain, knowing, she says, that some thing was wrong, Michelle haemorrhaged six weeks before the baby was due. The boy is back in hospital now. He has continual chest infections and

chronic lung disease. While other children are

leaping the usual develop-ment hurdles, Grant's parents are left on the starting grid, wondering whether he will survive. "It looks very bleak," said Michelle.

under tough questioning from

Quentin Davies, Tory MP for

Stamford, who said he must

either be lying to the commit-

tee or or have been lying when he wrote the memo.

Since then Mr Newton has

Crossword 15; Weather 16;

# Millennium star project faces axe in political row

Ewen MacAskill, Chief Political Correspondent

HE centrepiece of the millennium celebra tions, a spectacular exhibition dome in London's Greenwich, is at serious risk of being scup-pered in a behind-the-scenes

political row.

The Deputy Prime Minister, Michael Heseltine, had adopted it as his pet project and pushed ahead in spite ofprotests that national lottery money should be spent on smaller projects throughout the country rather than the

The fate of the Millennium Dome, which was to have held 12 pavilions, looks to have been decided yesterday at a series of private meetings held at Westminster between politicians and those directly involved in the project. Both Mr Heseltine and the National Heritage Secretary,

Virginia Bottomley, will seel to blame Labour, who in turn will point the finger at Mr Heseltine for mishandling it, not least by leaving it so late.

Mrs Bottomley was said last night to be looking for a Commons slot to make a

Labour senses a disaster in the making and has cooled towards the project after look-

ing at the costings. The Millennium Commis sion, which administers lottery funds, will meet today to consider the business plan for the Greenwich project drawn up by Millennium Central, the group overseeing it. A decision on whether to go ahead has to be made before

Christmas. The crux of the problem is that Millennium Central, which has costed the project at £700 million, needs a promise to underwrite the funds from both the Conservatives and Labour, the latter clearing the Greenwich site because the private sector for the dome.

recognises that it might form the next government.

That guarantee is not likely to be forthcoming from Labour, which does not want to face in Government a project whose costs keep spiral-ling and to which an open-ended cheque has been given.

It is up to the commission to decide whether the costings are realistic, especially if Labour is not supportive.

Work on the dome, the size of two Wembley stadiums, is scheduled to begin in the scheduled to begin in the middle of next year and be completed in autumn 1999. The opening was planned for December 31, 1999.

Estimates of the cost have ranged from £350 million to £1 billion but Millennium Central has put the figure at £700 million in its draft budget for its presentation to the Millen-nium Commission today, with £430 million spent on in-frastructure and the exhibi-

tions and the remainder on running costs. Millennium Central estimates it can balance the books by getting £200 million from lottery money, a further £150 million from the private sector and the rest raised from gate receipts, sponsor ship and other forms of

A spokesman for Millen-nium Central said last night: "We are looking for party consensus round the project. Without that, the not happen."

Lottery funds allocated to the commission are due to end after 2000.

Labour's shadow heritage secretary, Jack Cunningham, indicated last week that he had other plans for the lottery money after that date. The shadow education spokesman. David Blunkett, has been looking at diverting the money into schools and other

projects. Work has already begun on

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# MPs to censure Willetts for role in cash-for-questions affair

David Hencke Westminster Corre

Ps agreed last night on a report criticising the role of David Willetts, the Paymaster General, over the cash for questions

After 25 hours of deliberation Tony Newton, the Leader

Democrat MPs on the Commons standards and privi-leges committee to agree to put forward a report to the Speaker today.
Their findings will be pub

pehaved badly in trying to influence the Commons members interests committee over the cash for questions affair two years ago. But it was not clear whether the censure will be strong enough to prolished this afternoon. It is voke his resignation.
The present inquiry was understood that the report will be unanimous. started two months ago after The most likely outcome is

mere Port, after a memorandum written by Mr Willetts became public. In the memo, written on the day the Guardreceiving cash from Harrods

of the House, finally got Con-servative, Labour and Liberal Willetts, then a junior whip, servative, Labour me Com-behaved badly in trying to in-Miller, Labour MP for Elles Tory majority" to rush through proceedings, or treat the matter as sub judice. ian exposed ministers Neil Johnson Smith, then chair-Hamilton and Tim Smith for man of the members interests

MPs questioned both Mr Willetts and \$ir Geoffrey committee, about its contents. owner Mobamed al Fayed for asking Parliamentary Quesing to advise the committee

had to balance the views of Mr Davies with other more loyalist Tories in trying to reach an unanimity. Comment and Letters 8 Obituaries 10

Inside Broskingssers seikt. Hentags Secretary

Virginia Britorulei was seeking ched

**World News** Saddam Hussenwas clisappoints (Mich disappoints (Mich the power failer as he ficked the switch to set that oil flowing scale after til kolesignos.)

Victims of the SCCI collapse finally received this distributions since the trace which is not a received the trace with the collapse from went bushin the stannet of 1991

Jackie Steviait set his signis one world pharpourship for the rollication when be develed his team's list grand prix car in Landon

Radio and TV 16

political capital from her crackdose on TV yiolence:

#### Sketch

### Kunzle cakes and fruitcakes



Simon Hoggart

T WAS a weird Prime Minister's Question Time yes-terday, even weirder than came when Mr Major announced that he had no intention of resigning before the next election — a remark greeted with total silence

But the rest of the session was pretty weird too. For one thing, Mr Major seemed to imagine that he was still at home in Huntingdon and was welcoming Mr Blair to tea in

his conservatory. Mr Blair was very polite, to begin with. Did the Prime Minister agree with Sir Leon Brittan that Conservative divisions in Europe were weak-ening Britain's position within the EU? he inquired, in the same way as he might have remarked on the vicarage

Mr Major didn't agree, but then he didn't actually dis-agree. He offered Mr Blair a metaphorical cup of tea. And a Kunzle Cake. (Do you remember Kunzle Cakes? They were sort of chocolatey and spongey and filled with sweet, slimy gunk. I feel sure they are still on sale at the Hunting-

don 8 Till Late Mini-Mart.) He mused that two things were damaging the British po-sition. One was that the House of Commons was divided. The other was that the rest of the EU was expecting "a very easy ride were there to be a Labour

government".
The implication — that the crisis in the Conservative Party can be blamed on 17 years of Labour misrule (the 17 years we are expecting to start next year) — was cheeky even by Mr Major's high standards. Something I've noticed is that he always has to have someone else to blame for everything that goes wrong, and it's usually the

Opposition. However, he continued to

slightly mannered fashion. The two men were beginning to resemble Hinge and Bracket, a pair of drag queans abusing each other, but within the strict rules of social

Mr Blair sucked the butter thoughtfully out of a toasted crumpet. "After his Sunday interview, much of which I vould agree with, there is le clear water between him, his deputy, one half of the Cabinet and this side of the House, than there is between him and his backbenchers."

We held our breath. Was Mr Major going to defect? It would solve an awful lot of his problems. The main difficulty would be finding him a safe Labour seat in time for the next election. Huntingdon might do.

He mused aloud that a Labour government would abandon many of the positions which the Conservative had taken up in Europe. "A little more Earl Grey, Mr Blair? I think there's still a drop in the pot . . ." (I made the last bit up.)

At this point the elaborate etiquette became something of a strain and they started chucking metaphorical slices of Battenberg cake at each other. Mr Blair pointed out that Jerry Hayes (C, Harlow) had described Teresa Gorman (C, Billericay) as "part of the politically insane — and some may say he is a very good judge of these matters". Soon afterwards the conser-

vatory was invaded by hooligans and riff-raff, and the genteel mood was destroyed. Ms Lynne Jones (Lab, Selly Oak) asked whether he would take seriously any other European government which was in as much of a shambles as this one. Last time it had happened, he had resigned as party leader. Should he now not resign as prime minister?

Mr Major said, to the weird silence from behind him, that the simple answer was no. The splits on that side of the House are seismic!" he added. He was getting over-excited. People who live in glass sit-ting rooms abouldn't throw

At that point, Mrs Gorman — the politically insane one-stood up, to the cheers of the whole Labour party. "Ee, seli mic!" said someone with a happy, northern accent.

ATO forces in Bos nia are to adopt a tough "suffocastrategy in the new year in a concerted effort to seek out and help arrest more than 60 Indicted war criminals

Nato foreign ministers, neeting in Brussels yesterday, were told that without more robust action to bring alleged war criminals to trial in The Hague, the alliance might unwittingly lay the seeds of another war in

The existing 60,000-strong Nato peace force, I-For, has resisted active involvement in the detention of suspected ar criminals, arguing that its main task was to separate

tant last night to spell out pre- | ber of troops in Bosnia over troops will be given when a new stability force of 25,000 to 30,000 - S-For - takes over on December 20, it was clear that a much higher priority would be given to the drive to capture suspects wanted by the international war crimes

tribunal in the Netherlands. The curtain of steel which has protected some of the most notorious war criminals and prevented them being seized and put on trial is beginning to weaken," one Nato diplomat said.

We will want to harass them and to suffocate them by gradually hemming them into places where they can be more readily apprehended. I would expect S-For to begin to act sooner rather than later on the issue of war criminals if only because there will be a

The new strategy was described as moving beyond the war crimes issue, though ng short of "turning S-For into a police force".

It will include the provision of increased intelligence on the movements of suspected war criminals, and new au-thority for the international peace force to follow up cases on non-compliance with the tribunal by local police. But at the heart of the new

strategy is a greater willing-ness to have S-For involved in the arrest and transfer to The Hagne of indicted war crimi-nals. No final decisions will be taken on the troops' exact role until a detailed military study of all the issues involved has been completed.

criminals and we are very concerned to ensure that the authority of the international war crimes tribunal is up-held," the United States secretary of state, Warren Christo-pher, said last night. "We will be seeing how new and more effective methods of help can be used to help the war crimes tribunal carry out its responsibilities." The Canadian foreign min-

New stability force in Bosnia will help smoke out elusive suspects indicted by tribunal in The Hague

Nato to pursue war wanted

ister, Lloyd Axworthy, said: The continued freedom of in-dicted war criminals is one of the greatest threats to a dura-ble peace, and if S-For departs without having contributed to the apprehension of these people, I believe we will have left the seeds of future conflict

in Bosnia to germinate." The meeting also con-demned the Serbian government's refusal to recognise op-position wins in local elections last month. It called

on President Slobodan Milose vic to reverse the decision. Serbian authorities have ig-

nored the calls of the interna tional community to respect internationally recognised democratic principles," a democratic principles, in statement issued by the for-eign ministers said.

Mr Christopher explicitly warned President Milosevic

that he faced deepening international isolation.

"The people of Serbia de-serve what their neighbours in central Europe have: clean elections, a free press, a normal market economy." he told the meeting. "If President Milosevic respects their will, Serbia can enjoy the legitimacy and assistance it needs. If he seeks to rule Serbia can enjoy the legitimacy and assistance it needs. bia as an unreformed dictatorship, it will only increase his isolation and the suffering

The US and other Nato gov-ernments also distanced themselves from the Croatian president, Franjo Tudiman, who is under increasing polit ical siege from the democratic

opposition in his country. "It was most inappropriate for President Tudiman to recently award a medal to the Croatian General (Tihomir) Blaskec, who is in dotention and awaiting trial in The Hague for war crimes," a US state department spokesman

Meanwhile, the alliance yesterday said it would begin admitting new members from regardless of whether Russia agrees to form a partnership with Nato. Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Slovenia have been widely tipped as the first new entrants.

#### Review

## From steely snap to tender trap

John Fordham

Cassandra Wilson Shepherd's Sush Empire

N THE TURN of the decade, they used to pro-mote her as "the jazz sessed several virtues that en-dorsed the contention. Her voice mostly occupied a ma-jestic mid-register with a steely snap like Nina Si-mone's. Her shows were not with the feel. But her work also seemed in tension between the percussive restless-ness of New York street-corner funk, and an older jazz of standard ballads and feline melodic ingenuity. It was a tension that made Wilson young woman forging a new way of singing out of the mate

Last night, the jury was out. Wilson abandoned her investigations of cutting-edge nou-veau funk around 1993 and opted for a popular roots music that set contemporary material and classic Robert Johnson blues in a guitar-led acoustic band instead of a funk or jazz group, and this set-up she maintained. But unlike earlier London performances with a similar repertoire. Wilson seemed restless and elusive, as if she had sent a reluctant doppelgänger to perform in her place. The mix of resonant detail and irresistible momentum that had marked out her most imposing performances were obscured by a sound mix that buried her subtleties and the ensemble's difficulties in finding a groove

PRINCIPALS of leading Roman Catholic sixth

form colleges are calling on education ministers to help cope with a boom in demand

for places from students of all

Colleges with good exam results and a clear moral

ethos are snowed under with

applications. "We operate an open admissions policy here,"

faiths — and none.

David Ward

nie Plaxico opened with a ringing acoustic solo starting with the bow and turning into a crackling rythmic pulse like a ringmaster's whip. Cassandra glided into the spotlight to deliver Strange Fruit, a risky opening in a territory defined by Billie Holiday, the spine-chilling lyrics of which were

Blindness brought the expec-tancy back, her voice almost indistinguishably intertwined with Jeffrey Haynes's explo-sive hand-drum effects. When she took to the guitar

herself, she began a groove that sounded like a rhythm section on its own, and which almost diverted the show into the elevated territory it was in search of. The effect was sus-tained by a Lonnie Plaxico solo that resembled both a bass improvisation and a ma blowing eerle wind sounds into the neck of an empty bottle, and which led into one of Wilson's most gripping themes from her Blue Light till Dawn disc, Can't Stand the

Jeffrey Haynes's percussive effects extended to finger-snapping into the microphones to produce a sound like snare-drums, and for a while it was the nearest thing to the magic of Wilson's finest

music.

Before the close, she delivered the Monkees' Last Train to Clarksville, which maybe indecision. It might be a pass-ing career dilemma. Or it might have been one of those nights. This review appeared in later editions yesterday.

said Ambrose Smith, princi-

pal of Aquinas college in

Stockport, Greater Manches-

ter, where about half of the 1,150 students are non-Catho-

lics. "Pressure for places has

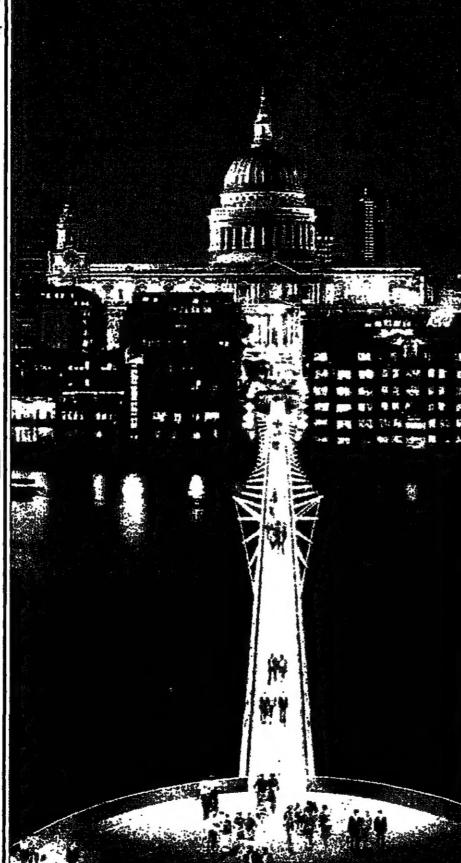
increased enormously. Appli-cations were 78 per cent higher this year than last."

Part of the attraction is that parents see sixth form col-

leges, which became indepen-dent of local councils in 1993,

as a safe transition route

Catholic schools face influx



An artist's impression of the view towards St Paul's over the Millennium bridge, which

# Britons' metal arc design chosen to bridge Thames

Arts Correspondent

HE competition to design London's first pe-destrian bridge was won by the British team of architect Sir Norman Foster and sculptor Sir Anthony Caro, it was an-

nounced yesterday. The bridge, an arc of stainless steel and cable, will run from below St Paul's Cathedral on the north bank to the Bankside power station, the site of the new Tate Gallery of Modern Art.

Organisers hope the bridge, the first to be built across the Thames in more than a century, will be finished in time for the open-ing of the Bankside gallery in spring 2000.

Sir Norman said yester-day: "We are delighted with the news. It's a great The competition attracted 226 entries from

around the world, and was



Sir Anthony Caro: It will be a beautiful addition to city'

unusual in inviting com-bined designs from archi-tects and artists. Sir Anthony said: "I feel

great, I'm delighted with the announcement. I just want to get on with it now and hopefully it will get built soon. It will be a tre-mendously beautiful addition to London. It will be a

building projects to have been unveiled recently. Others include a scheme to revamp Hungerford Bridge. and a competition for a habitable bridge. A preliminary applica-tion has been made to the

Millennium Commission for funding for the esti-mated £10 million needed to build the bridge. Other funding has proved diffi-cult to find, although the project has the backing of the Corporation of London. Michael Cassidy, chair-

man of the corporation's policy and resources com-mittee, said: "This project is crucial for establishing an image for London."
The bridge design is

simple, featuring a four-metre wide platform and Sir Anthony's distinctive exidised metal. There will be a viewing platform offer ing a sweeping view up to St Paul's Cathedral.

The pedestrian bridge Foster profile, G2 page 12

# Troubles force up **Ulster security bill**

HE price of renewed IRA violence and a disastrous summer of civil unrest came home to Northern Ireland yesterday when the Government increased spending on security by £120 million. bringing the total within

reach of £1 billion a year.

The security budget is to be increased by £120 million over the next three years, the Northern Ireland Secretary Sir Patrick Mayhew announced yesterday, reversing the "peace dividend" resulting from the IRA and loyalist ceasefires. Deep cuts in many

Total security spending for 1997-98 will rise to £984 million. Justifying the increase Sir Patrick said he would have much preferred to have used the money on job creation, schools, hospital and housing, but the IRA and "those responsible for the disturbances which occurred last summer" bore a heavy

ending of its ceasefire, witnessed in the bombings ear lier this year and recent terrorist atrocities, means that more resources need to be allocated to security and

compensation," he said.
"On top of this we have had
the cost of the very serious disturbances of last summer. The cost of Drumcree is cur-rently estimated to be £40 million. This constitutes a griev-ous and wanton self-inflicted wound on the people of this



Sir Patrick Maybew: End of

With law and order topping the Government's spending priority, the RUC will receive an additional £77 million over the next three years to deal with security. A further £42 million has been provided to the Compensation Agency to meet the predicted cost of claims resulting from terror-ist attacks and civil unrest.

"The IRA's abominable are the main areas to suffer, with a £29 million cut in spending on community jobs 2,000 places on the Jobskills adult training scheme and the closure of a training centre at Dundonald, east Belfast.

Spending in Northern Ire-land remains 30 per cent higher per head than in the rest of the UK. But cuts have board, hitting education, health and roads. Meanwhile, policing costs

tors in Ballymena, County Antrim have risen to an estimated £650,000. The cost of the 13-week security opera-tion was confirmed yesterday men about an arson attack at the Church of Our Lady in the town's Harryville area. Another demonstration is expected on Saturday.

On Monday, flammable liquid was poured through a smashed window of the church and set alight. The flames were quickly put out by a passing RUC patrol.

Last Saturday evening about 100 Protestants turned out to support their Catholic neighbours attending mass as police kept the demonstrators back. The loyalists are protesting at nationalist objections to an Orange Order pa-rade through the nearby

village of Dunloy. Responding to the publication of the spending plans, the shadow Northern Ireland secretary, Marjorle Mowlam, said: "This is a budget for the short term. Spending has increased on programmes to deal with policy failures like BSE. But in the long term, everyone will suffer from cuts in housing, education, training, agriculture and research.
"IRA violence and, on top of that, the disturbances this summer at and after Drum-

cree are major factors increasing costs. But that is only part of the story. The Government is making year-on-year cuts in the overall budget as well, which makes the job of building a

stable economic base to

underpin the peace process

Mamy C

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# 200 years of runaway success

Kamal Ahmed on the sale of marriage records, right, from Gretna Green, the Scottish village whose romantic history still attracts

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urity bis



The path of true love

T IS a name heavy with | 1818 the whiff of scandal and | Lord Thomas Erakine, the clandestine arrangements. From Lord Thomas Erskine to Sir James Goldsmith, the great and the good have packed their bags and headed north by right-thinking English for a taste of its romantic

a year

Gretna Green, the small Scot-

Anderson and Garland, an auction house based in New-castle upon Tyne, will sell the archive, thought to be the largest private collection of marriage records from Gretna Green to come under the house this contury.

The four hard-bound registers, two soft-bound ledgers and 21 bundles of loose-leaf records are the legacy of the Lang family who set them. records are the legacy of the Lang family who set them riage correspondence.

bribed with a 20-shilling

former Lord Chancellor of England, ran north of the border at the age of 68 to marry his housekeeper, Sarah Buck, Frowned upon gentlemen, Lord Erskine, notoriety.

A unique insight will be revealed by auctioneers tomorrow into the affairs of

tish village that was the first port of call for English lovers who wanted to marry without the blessing of their parents.

Is 26

Edward Gibbon Wakefield, a colonial statesman, married Ellen Turner, a 15-year old heirses. Wakefield was old heiress. Wakefield was tracked down and arrested

Marius Goring, the Hollyrules forbidding actors to visit South Africa.

if that Isabel's father

wood actor, married Mary Shiel, although it is not clear why he chose Gretna. He later engaged in a 30-year battle with Equity over

Sir James Goldsmith mar-ried Isabel Patino, the Cath-olic daughter of a Bolivian tin millionaire. Legend has remarked that his family

was "not in the habit of marrying Jews", to which Sir James replied: "And we do not marry Red Indians."

age of 68. His sons from a previous marriage were so opposed to the union that they attempted to have their father committed to a mental institution to prevent it.

cords such as these have been auctioned on the open mar-ket," said Andrew McCoull, of Anderson and Garland.

woman. In 1826 Mr Lang married Edward Gibbon Wakefield, "They are the earliest records of marriages from Gretna described as a "colonial statesman", to the 15-year-old Green and there has been fanheiress, Ellen Turner. Waketastic interest in the collecfield was later found guilty of tion which is considered a bistorical treasure of Britabduction after a trial at Lan-caster and sentenced to three

ain's rich past."

David Lang was the first self-styled priest, setting up in years in prison.

During the nineteenth century, Parliament attempted to close the Gretna loophole by insisting that people who mar-ried there had been resident in Scotland for at least three weeks. Couples simply slept 1792. With no formal training or church backing, it was his job to note down the names of those who wanted to get mar-ried and the witnesses, all that was needed for an official rough or stayed at imns for the marriage in Scotland at the

The village's advantage of over England remained until Green," said Susan Clark, dillegal to hold which made it illegal to hold tall consent to marriage for seum. "That is a very special which made it illegal to hold tall consent to marriage for seum. "That is a very special those under 21 south of the thing."

The village's advantage married before at Green, and the village's multiple of the village's mu

to Scotland by dressing as a border was repealed, bringing woman. English and Scots law into

Others married at Gretna include the Hollywood actor Marius Goring, to Mary Shiel, and Sir James Goldsmith, who married Isabel Patino, the daughter of a Bolivian tin millionaire.

Although having no legal advantage, Gretna remains popular among the romantically inclined. Last year nearly 4,000 people were mar-ried there. It has the only reg-istry office in Scotland to make a profit.

rough or stayed at ims for the qualification period.

The village's advantage married before at Gretna.

# **Leah Betts** died after ignoring drug advice

EAH Betts, the Essex teenager who died after taking an esctasy tablet during her 18th

birthday party, was advised by the friend who gave it to her to take only half, the the tablet, a jury at Norwich crown court heard yesterday. Sarah Cargill, aged 18, said she was concerned that the tablet was stronger than the ecstasy which Leah had previously taken. But she said Leah ignored her advice and Leah ignored her advice and swallowed the whole pill. She collapsed into a coma three hours later and died in No-

vember last year,
Analysis had shown there was nothing chemically wrong with the tablet Leah had taken and that she had fallen victim to the arbitrary

nature of the drug.

The court heard that Miss Cargill had obtained the drug through a network of friends after it had been bought from an unknown dealer at a Basildon night club.

Steven Packman, aged 18, of Laindon, Essex, pleaded not guilty to supplying a prohibited drug.

Andrew Williams, prosecuting, said Packman was not being charged with culpability in Lack's death but with

ity in Leah's death but with being involved in the supply.

Mr Williams told the jury that Packman purchased the tablets from the dealer and passed them to Stephen Smith, aged 18, who has al-ready admitted his involve-ment and will be sentenced

later. Mr Williams said Smith would give evidence on Packman's involvement.
Mr Williams said Smith

girlfriend, Louise Yexley, and she in turn handed them on to

Miss Cargill

Miss Cargill told the court
she and Leah had each paid

£22.50 — a total of £45 — to
Smith for a total of four tablets.

She said she and Leah had then taken the tablets at the birthday party at the Betts' home in Latchingdon, Essex. The remaining two tablets were recovered by police after

chain of supply and had been cautioned by police.

Miss Cargill had ap-proached Miss Yexley a few days before Leah's party to ask Smith to get tablets. Initially he was reluctant, but then agreed to do so. Smith asked Packman to try and obtain them for him. Packman purchased them at the night club and passed them to Smith hidden in a matchbox. Miss Cargill said she and Leah had initially started to experiment with drugs at the beginning of 1995, first with "things like cannabis", then

with whitz — amphetamine.

They had also tried LSD and on four previous occasions had taken ecstasy. "As far as I am aware (Leah) done exactly the same

as me at the same times, Miss Cargill said. A statement from Leah's father, Paul Betts, a former father, Paul Betts, a former police inspector, read to the court described the birthday party as going "quite nicely" until they were told their daughter was upstairs feeling unwell. Her stepmother quickly realised that Leah had taken something and she admitted swallowing an ectagy tables which che said. stasy tablet which she said had been supplied to her by

After Leah's death, her father and stepmother, Janet Betts, launched a nationwide campaign to warn other young people of the dangers of drugs, and to raise funds to set up an advice line for

The trial continues



TAGHeuer

# Six army officers accused of rape

College men charged following complaint by civilian student

Luke Harding

IX army officers at one of Britain's most presti-gious military colleges will appear in court today charged with raping a civil-ian student.

in her early 20s and was alleg-edly raped after entering an accommodation block where

fore magistrates in Wantage, Oxfordshire, charged with raping the student at the Royal Military College, at Shrivenham, Wiltshire, six months 1go.

The officers are all serving with the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and

ian student.

The men — two captains, a lieutenant and three cadets — were arrested by Ministry of Defence detectives following a complaint four weeks ago. The complainant is believed to be in her early 20s and was allegedly raped after entering an eddy raped after entering an conditional ball.

Mechanical Engineers and Mechanical Engineers and are ged 20–28.

Five appeared before magisfrates last Wednesday. Three were sent to a remand centre and two to prison. A sixth of ficer will appear today after being arrested in North Yorkshire last month and granted conditional ball.

The officers have been

named as Lieutenant Mat-thew James Tupling, aged 23, of Bordon, Hampshire, Cadet Andrew John Stout, 20, of Whickham, Tyneside, Cadet Whickham, Tyneside, Cadet
Darren Bartlett, 23, of Arborfield, Berkshire, Cadet Nicholas Oettinger, 20, of Preston.
Lancashire, Captain Philip
James Bates, 25, of Bordon,
Hampshire, and Capt Ian Barlow, 28, of Wattisham, Suffolk.
The college, which teaches
civilians and military personnel specialises in manage.

nel, specialises in manage-ment, science and technology. Research also takes place at accommodation block where the men were having a sauna.

A spokesman for MoD the college, which is attached taking up the command of the officers will appear be police, Rob Need, said: "Six to Cranfield University." HMS Cottesmore.

army officers have been arrested and charged with rape at the college. They were arrested by officers on December 3 for an offence on May 27."

The Royal Military College The Royal Military College of Science has 3,500 students and is run by a commandant, Major-General Alistair Irwin, CBE, and a principal, Profes-sor Phil Hutchinson.

marriages, named after the taverns of Fleet Street in Lon-don where they took place, were the refuge of those who did not want their marriages

announced to the general

son, William.

The Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers con-tains the craftsmen who keep the military machine running smoothly. It has specialists, including mechanics and computer operators, attached to most regiments who have been vital to many successful

military operations.
Old boys include the Duke of York, who served at Shrivenham six years ago before





I can only infer that Julian Lewis thinks it wrong for an employee of the Conservative Party to disagree with government policy, but quite acceptable for a Conservative candidate to stand for election while refusing to endorse the party's manifesto. Logic has never been his strong suit.

Wheen's World G2 page 7

# Radio tribute to music of 20th century

LASSIC FM it is not. Radio 3 yesterday launched Sounding The Century, an ambitious three-year festival to celebrate the music of the 20th century. But reflecting the station's

unashamedly pro-active bent, many unfamiliar names will figure in the programme of concerts, operas, documen-tary series and premieres. Li-geti, Part and Knussen will jostle for air time with Elgar, Mahler, Stravinsky and

Stockhausen.
"The whole aim is to expand people's horizons," the Radio 3 controller, Nicholas Kenyon, said launching the project. "We're saying that we believe in every one of these pieces. They all reflect something important about our century. Twentieth cen-tury music is wonderful and it is right that the BBC should celebrate it."

The festival will open next February with a performance of Stravinsky's The Rite Of Spring conducted by Pierre Boulez at the South Bank

Highlights include The Sibelius Experience, a series ry's key composers; a Century Of Singers, a weekly survey of 100 great singers of the

Contributions, an attempt to amass a cultural library or canon of the century's most significant cultural

Several premieres will take place as part of the festival, which aims to involve every orchestra in the country and feature both British and foreign composers and

Pierre Boulez's explosante/ fixe will receive its first London performance, conducted by the organiser of the festival, the composer George Benjamin.

But perhaps the most alarming premiere will be an opera by Nicholas Maw of the pop philosophy best seller, So-phie's Choice, described by one critic as "Playboy goes to Auschwitz". Already a film and a book, Sophie's Choice is a joint commission by Radio 3 and the Royal Opera House, and is scheduled for the open-ing season of the refurbished Royal Opera House.

George Benjamin said yes-terday: "It is a complex pro-ject but its object is simple: to reflect the wonders of music in this century. There will be a lot of work that has been neglected but deserves to be

tent that only 20th century music would be heard. "Anything written in 1899 doesn't

heard." But Mr Benjamin was insishave a chance.

#### Six notables

EDWARD Elgar (1857-1934): English composer who went from regional obscurity to international fame in the first decade of the century. Perhaps the



music com-bines an epic nobility with popular lightness. One of Land Of Hope And Glory

PIERRE Boulez (1925-): French composer, a former chief conductor of the BBC theorist. He is an experimental composer who



studied barmony under Messiaen. He later went on to develop a distinctivefree-form compositional style which

leaves many options open to the individual performer. Among his best known works: Le Marteau sans Maitre (1952).

Gyorgy Ligeti (1923-): the Hungarian composer. His is currently the name to drop in contemporary classical music circles. One of the century's most individual



he has been influenced by sources as diverse as medieval music. Hunsong, jazz, minimalism and African

and original

music. He is probably best known for his composition Clock And Clouds which he completed in 1972/3.

IGOR Stravinsky (1882 1971): he was often criticised during his lifetime for what some musicians perceived as the "soulless" character of his compositions. But



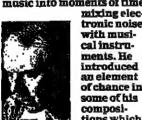
seen to have worked in and ex-ploited most cal styles of the 20th century. He was

Stravinsky

can now be

born in Rus-sia, but he left in 1984 and eventually settled in the United States. His best known work is probably The Rite Of Spring (1913).

Karlheinz Stockhausen (1928-): he is baffling but has an enormous following. "parameters" and divided



ments. He introduced of chance in some of his compositions which culminated

with Zyklus (1959), in which the performer can start at any one of 17 pages. Best known work: Stimmung (1968).

Arvo Pārt (1935-): Another figure in the Radio 3 programmes. He is an Estonian composer with a background in radio. His early



Third Symphony.

corporates chant and experimental rhythmic organisation. His best known work is the

music into moments of time, mixing elec-

Philip Jones Griffiths, who worked for the Guardian in the 1960s, with one of his most famous images from Vietnam. An exhibition of his photojournalism opens at the National Museum and Gallery in Cardiff tomorrow PHOTOGRAPH: JETT MORGAN

Chris Mihili Medical Correspondent

work was influenced by Prokoviev and Shostako vich. His later work shows great style. It in-

Sinking spirits makes spirits sink

QUICK drink to lift the spirits may seem a good idea at the time, but it is a dangerous strategy as alcohol can cause depression tonin, which controlled mood. and lead to a vicious cycle of excessive consumption, doc-

tors warned yesterday.

A leaflet from the Royal
Colleges of Psychiatrists and General Practitioners says that heavy drinking will cause depression, not cure it, and that many people suffer ing from depression who drink heavily may have the bottle to blame for their conbottle to blame for their condition rather than other factors such as bereavement.

Bruce Ritson, chairman of the Royal College of Psychiatics of the Royal College of the Royal College of the Royal College of the Royal College of the Royal Colleg trists' substance abuse sec- and resolution of the depres- in the new year, is marketed the claims being made for it.

cal changes in the brain caused by alcohol. Heavy drinking could cause change in cell membranes in the brain which affected chemical transmitters such as sero He said this partly explained the edginess in people

with hangovers, and also partly explained the craving for drink in people trying to give it up. However, Dr Ritson, a consultant at the Royal Edin burgh hospital, said the brain cell changes would repair themselves in 10 days to a

tion, said there was growing | sion." He said around one in | as speeding up the breakdown | knowlege about the biochemi | 10 patients going to family | of alcohol, with importers | cal changes in the brain | doctors had some form of de | Pre-Party Marketing claiming | doctors had some form of de-pressive iliness, and about 5 per cent of the population probably had drinking

> Among those with diag-nosed drinking problems, half of females and a third of males suffered from serious depression. Suicide was seven times more common among people with alcohol problems. "A surprising number of people do not make the link between drinking and depres-sion, but alcohol is a depressant drug," said Dr Ritson.
>
> • A soft drink's claim to be a miracle hangover cure was yesterday strongly disputed by the drinks industry, writes

statement. Exit, which will go on sale

drinkers sober up faster and may avoid a hangover.

But three associations rounded on the claim, saying that it was not substantiated on medical grounds. "In 2,000 years of alcohol production no known way of speeding up the breakdown of alcohol within the body has been found. It takes one hour for one unit of alcohol to be broken down by the liver," said Alcohol Concern, the British Soft Drinks Association and the Portman Group in a joint

The three groups called for public analysts to carry out a study on the bitter lemon-tasting drink and for trading standards officers to consider

# Police again fail to find victim of car crash

POLICE force which was criticised for falling to find the body of a woman following a car crash said yesterday that it failed to detect another accident, in which a youth died, because of fog. Bedfordshire police admit-ted it took them more than an hour to reach the scene of last Friday's crash, in which Rich-

Friday's crash, in which kich-ard Horricks, aged 17, was killed, after a patrol car took a wrong turn in the fog. It is believed that Mr Hor-ricks was still alive when his crashed car was spotted in a field at Bletsoe, north Bed-fordshire, by Ministry of De-fence security officers. They fence security officers. They did not stop to investigate.

After police failed to find the car, they contacted the se-curity officers again to check its location. It was found that the car had been driven for a further 200 yards before Mr Mr Horricks collapsed and died.
Mr Horricks, who lived at
Riseley, north Bedfordshire,
was an A level student at Sharnbrook Upper School. where his twin sister is also a pupil. He was returning from

the crash occurred. In May 1995, two Bedfordshire officers falled to find the body of Sally London, aged 39, who died after her car crashed into a field.

a night out with friends when

She was discovered 24 hours later by a member of the public. The two officers concerned were dismissed but were reinstated earlier this year following an appeal to the Home Secretary.

A Bedfordshire police

spokesman said yesterday that there were no similar-ities between the two cases and that there were no plans to investigate or discipline the two officers sent out to investigate last Friday's

He added: "We received a telephone call saying that there was an abandoned vehi-cle in a field. There was total

well, spent three hours look-ing for him and couldn't find him. But we are looking into the management of the incident."

At a press conference, Anthony Howlett Brown, as-sistant chief constable, said: "I think with the benefit of hindsight there are things we would like to have done, like getting back to the MoD at an

earlier stage.
"If it had been reported as an accident or injury acci-dent, clearly more would have been done at the time. I have called for a full report,"

A police statement said that two officers were sent from Greyfriars police station in Bedford to deal with last Friday's call. It added: "Unfortunately in

the fog an officer took the first turn to Thurleigh and was unable to locate the car. As he was unable to find what he believed was a routine incident of an abandoned car, a decision was taken to return to search in daylight the next

day.
"Following further information an hour later, Greyfriars control room contacted the MoD security and asked them to verify the location.
"When the security officers

returned to the scene, they found the car had moved 200 yards towards the A6. The driver had collapsed nearby and was later pronounced

In the previous two weeks there had been 170 reported cases of abandoned vehicles. Mr Horricks's stepfather, John Kingsford, aged 45, yesterday said: "The policeman concerned was 21, not much older than Richard. It would be wrong to blame him for what happened."

He added: "I do find it incredible, though, that the MoD staff drove past the car without stopping. Richard suffered terrible injuries and we have been told they would have proved fatal in any

Richard's mother Avril. aged 48, said: "It is terrible for fog which made it difficult to us and must be for the secu-find the car. The family of the rity officers who drove past

#### £4m of army ammunition reported missing in Bosnia

**David Hencke** ninster Correspo

ABREAKDOWN in proper accounting procedures for guns, drugs and ammunition among the 14,500 British troops sent to Bosnia could allow valuable weapons and hard currency to fall into the hands of criminals and rival militias, a National Audit

Office report reveals today.
It discloses that the Ministry of Defence is urgently investigating what has happened to 24 million of ammunition stockpiled in a Bosnia base where there has been no stocktaking for 17

months. Auditors sent to Bosnia by Parliament's financial watchdog found "there had been a breakdown in the controls over ammunition in particu-lar" while computers had not been able to keep track of medical supplies and stores. Fears that large sums of hard currency could fall into the wrong hands had also led to a cut from £5 million to £3.5 million in the amount of Ger-man marks and US dollars held in cash to pay for ser-vices in Bosnia where the banking system had collapsed.

"Security precautions are £8.95.

vital where large amounts of cash are held or transported. This is particularly the case in Bosnia, where the Ministry of Defence are concerned about criminal activity and

the availability of weapons. There had been considerable concern that 452 Milan anti-tank missiles worth £6 million could have gone missing. But after inquiries among the units, the missiles were found and accounting procedures were blamed.

Another inquiry founded that only 260 of 500 consign-ments of ammunition distributed to the troops had been properly receipted. In Croatia, vouchers authorising the issue of medical supplies including morphine and codeine, were missing but an other accounting error was

Other problems included severe difficulties in carrying out repairs to the various models of Land Rovers in use; and high prices paid for char-tering ships to take the troops and supplies to Bosnia.

MoD: The Financial Management of the Military Operation in the former Yugoslavia: Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General; Stationery Office.

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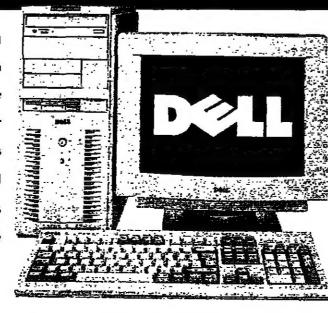
Alex Bellos.



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**Mno** in Bosnia

#### Warned: The Governor

RE Independent Televi-aion Commission issued a formal warning to Yorkshire Television over three scenes the ITV prison drama shown in March.

The female prison gover-nor, played by Janet McTeer (right), was threatened with rape and having her fingers cut off, in what was subsequently shown to be a training exercise. The commission said it was un-

acceptably explicit.
It featured a violent attack on a prison officer, whose head was smashed against a lavatory basin.

A rape scene in the prison, broadcast at about 9.45pm, was criticised as having gone "further than anything previously acceptable at that time." The commission upheld complaints about the 1995 series, which included a slow-motion por-trayal of the killing of a



### Silent Witness

HE Broadcasting Stan-dards Council upheld a series of complaints about sex and violence in the BBC1 series, starring Amanda Burton (right) as a forensic pathologist, shown in February and March this

Viewers were upset by graphic post morten scenes, but the BBC said most would have expected the programme to have been concerned with the physical consequences of violent death.

Complaints upheld included a prolonged and violent domestic assault in which a man attacked his girl friend and was then

stabbed by her son. The council said an episode which featured a mur-der in a shower, ritualistic carvings on corpses, sexual bondage and a body covered



# Bottomley's TV crackdown is dubbed 'just a political stunt'

Andrew Culf Media Corres

ROADCASTERS yes ginia Bottomley, the National Heritage Secretary, of seeking cheap political capital from her crackdown on television

Her high profile crusade against the prominence of violence in the schedules angered senior industry figures who claimed they had received insufficient credit for a big reduction over the past decade.

needed better information about violence so they could

their children's viewing.
"Between the regulators, programme makers and parents, we have got to tackle the question of excessive vio-lence on our screens," she said. "Statistics suggest the amount of violence on our screens is decreasing and I welcome that. But, even so, there are times when violence

seems too prominent in the schedules and this can be disturbing for many viewers." New figures due in the next fortnight are expected to show that violence on BBC, ITV and Channel 4 in 1995 accounted for just 0.61 per cent of programme output, compared with 1.1 per cent 10

years ago. Mrs Bottomley said the issue was about the nature of

and Brookside, but 'psychodrama" crime shows, such as Cracker and Silent Witness, which had an "undue concentration on the darker and violent side of society". Her four-point plan was of-

ficially announced after she met the chairmen of the BBC, Independent Television Commission and Broadcasting Standards Council. The three bodies have D Ensure programme makers

maintain proper standards and deal firmly with ☐ Work together to educate viewers about their codes on

C Improve advance pro-

gramme information on-

screen, on teletext, and in listings ☐ The commission and coun-cll will revise their codes of practice in 1997. The BBC recently revised its produc-

ers' guidelines. Bruce Gyngell, managing director of Yorkshire-Tyne Tees, who has previously attacked TV's descent into a mire of sleaze and violence, said politicians were just 'Jumping on the bandwagon Jack Cunningham, the shadow heritage secretary. said Mrs Bottomley was using

the issue to shore up her po litical credibility.

the initiative "to ensure parents are kept well informed about the nature of programmes".

Sir George Russell, chair-man of the commission, said: "Our own research has con-sistently shown the vast majority of parents are aware of the watershed policy, but the ITC believes more can be done to improve parents' understanding of programme scheduling."

But Jocelyn Hay, chairman of the Voice of the Listener and Viewer society, hoped the clampdown would not go too far. "We should not all be condemned to a diet of nursery

### V-chip 'not a solution'

Andrew Culf Media Correspondent

HE Government yester day urged more research into technol-ogy designed to shield chil-dren from violence on

But neither Virginia Bot-

tomley, the National Heritage Secretary, nor the main broadcasters believe the solu-tion to curbing small screen violence lies in a 60p elec-tronic V-chip (Violence-chip). From 1998 all new televi-sion sets in the United States must be fitted with the chip. It enables viewers to scramble programmes with unacceptable content. Broadcasters would code their output so that the chip registered its classification, and viewers-would set their own tolerance

levels for violence, sex, and Mrs Bottomley wants the

European Union to undertake more research, but a study published by her department yesterday revealed practical problems with the technology and devising a classification. and also questions of cost. Last year the film and video

industry spent £2.5 million on having 3,625 films classified, but the Independent Television Commission said there were more than 300,000 hours of programmes a year on com-mercial TV alone — and digital broadcasting would cause a further proliferation.

The study queried how vio-lence might be defined. "How does the fantasised violence of Tom and Jerry or Home Alone compare with that in

The BBC said it believed parents had to share responsibility with broadcasters, and that some broadcasters would use the technology as an ex-

Stephen Whittle, director of the Broadcasting Standards Council, said: "The Jury is still out on the V-chip. Clearly it can underpin consumer in-formation ... but it shifts all responsibility into the home and enables the broadcaster to abdicate responsibility." He warned it could take 10 to 15 years for all sets to be

fitted with chips.
Development of the V-chip began in Canada after an emotional campaign by 13-year-old Virginie Lariviere, who collected 1.5 million signatures on an petition calling for zero tolerance of TV vio-lence, after her younger sister

was raped and murdered. The European Parliament has backed the V-chip, and Australia also intends to adopt it. The US networks are antici-

pating the mandatory introduction of V-chips by drawing up a voluntary cinema-style ratings system.

the song was beginning to

pose a potential safety

standing at the ground and I was beginning to see a lot

of undue movement in the

crowd as people were jumping around while singing

"We've still got 4,900

# Labour reassures voters it will not abandon Britain's European veto

Political Editor

CENIOR shadow minis-Sters yesterday moved to reassure voters that a Blair government will not European Union as John Major struggled to turn the Euro-tide to Labour's disadvantage ahead of this week's Dublin summit.

day at question time in the Commons that there was "less clear water" between Mr Major and the Labour front bench than there is between the Prime Minister and

his own Tory Euro-critics.

Mr Major tried to reverse roles when he replied to Mr Blair's taunts. He claimed

that Mr Blair favoured a federal Europe. "You are perfectly correct

to say that when the House of Commons is not united on any issue it weakens any government's position in interna-tional negotiations," he said. "But what also undermines our national interest and our negotiating position in Europe is the fact that many of the socialist governments

in Europe are expecting a very easy ride were there to be a Labour government. They believe a Labour gov ernment would make changes, surrender positions that this Government has held to - positions that if sur-rendered would be damaging to the UK," he said.

Mainstream Tory strategists who do not share the Eurosceptic enthusiasm for

rency before the coming election believe Mr Major is on a We want to see reform in the winner when — as on BBC1's structural made, and across On the Record last Sunday — he asks voters if they want prespecienced Labour ministers taking vital decisions in Amsterdam next June

eign secretary, Robin Cook, and Gordon Brown, the shadow chancellor, said in in-terviews that a inture Labour government would not give up Britain's right to veto cer-tain European legislation in

But on Radio 4's World at One Mr Cook conceded that if the EU is enlarged to become a Europe of 25 to 26 nation states, they could not all be admitted "clutching their own vetoes."
"If you want reform, you do

that Labour has "the same Eurosceptic enthusiasm for have to have majority voting divisions" over Europe and saying No to a single cur- to stop one, perhaps, small

areas of agriculture policy, and that will mean these will have to be some majority votes against these individual nations that stand in the

Ian Traynor adds from Bonn: The Home Secretary, Michael Howard, yesterday rejected calls for greater inves tigative powers for the Europoi police agency.
Chancellor Helmut Kohl and

President Jacques Chirac of France on Monday proposed that Europol be given "opera-tional powers." Following talks in Bonn Mr Howard said there was no question "of Europol having powers to investigate crime or arrest people in member states."

#### Soccer fans are given stick over return of celery throwing craze

Nick Varley

AS A SYMBOL of a thriv-ling football club, a pile of calery is perhaps less recognised than gleaming silverware. It is also less welcome.

Fans of Gillingham, in Kent, are now being threat-ened with a life ban if they

his season. some fans after deciding club's safety officer, said it continued, so we had to Supporters entering the that celery could be classed the move was made because take action."

Priestfield ground will also be subject to celery stamp out the latest out-break of a football craze first recorded 10 years ago. Then Chelsea fans waved sticks of celery in the air while singing an obscene song about West Ham's hooligan Inter-City Firm,

contribute to the pitchside the inter-Celery Firm, and vegetable patch which has

this season

Second Division club's | as an offensive weapon. Now Gillingham fans are performing the same song, but throw their sticks of celery toward the pitch at its climax. Piles of celery have been collected from behind the home goal after

games Five fans, aged 16 to 19, have been banned for one game after being caught on closed circuit television

chucking celery. Ken Tappende

"Then we began to see celery coming out of the middle of the crowd and on to the side of the pitch. We

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# German socks sink UN man's asylum plea

Alan Travis Home Affairs Editor

KURD who has worked as a field officer for United Nations and British aid agencies in the safe haven of Suleimaniyah in northern Iraq is to be thrown out of Britain because he had new socks in his bag when he arrived at Heathrow

The man, now under a death sentence from Saddam Hussein for working with the UN, faces deportation after his asylum claim was rejected because immigration officials believe he came to Britain via Germany. He is not being named for his own protection. Their only evidence is a pair of C&A socks with a Ger-man price tag and a copy of the International Herald

Tribune. Lawyers for the man - who is being held in Campsfield immigration detention centre, near Oxford — insist he has not been to Germany, and came to Britain from Turkey, where the socks were a present from a well-wisher. They say the newspaper was bought at Heathrow.

The Home Office letter invaded by Iragi troops.
ejecting his application on A letter from the UN deputy
he grounds that he came via co-ordinator for northern rejecting his application on the grounds that he came via a "safe third country" states: "Iraq is not the only country to which you can be removed. You arrived from Germany where you had sufficient time to buy a newspaper and some socks. The Home Secretary is satisfied you had the opportu-

satisfied you had the opportu-nity to claim asylum in Ger-many." It gives no other reason for turning him away. His lawyer, Lifty Hazemi, said: "These are very flimsy grounds. He has worked for the past five years for the UN, for the British aid agency Care International and for the World Food Programme. He fled from Iraq as a result of the political situation in Angust He has been in Turkey since then waiting for an

opportunity to escape."
The Home Office has now been supplied with documentation backing his claims to have worked with the UN for

the past five years. Ms Hazemi said the 31-year-old married man had a cousin in Britain and wanted to come to here because of the United Kingdom's active role

iraq, Robin Medforth-Mills, which has been seen by the Guardian, testifies that the man has "been a valued contributor to the humanitarian programme during the past five years". He says he worked at a senior level with the UN High Commission for Refugees, and also with Care International and the UN Iraq Relief Co-Ordination Unit.

through which there is evi-dence that he has travelled through in the first instance." Last night, after inquiries by the Guardian, the Home Office said it would now consider the Kurdish man's "sub-

Testimony from Stafford Clarry, the UN field delegate, says the man has faced seri-ous threatening situations while carrying out his duties. A Home Office spokesman said he faces deportation on Friday because "there is clear evidence that [he] has transited a safe third country en route to the UK. The UK immigration authorities will seek to return that person to the safe third country

in the Kurdish safe haven in stantive case", and would northern Iraq before it was release him from detention.

cattle to

Paul Brown Environment Correspo

ANEW computer system to barcode every cow and bull in Britain to keep track of their movements is to be introduced by the Government to convince the Europeans and the home consumer that beef is safe.
The system will cost £5 mil-

lion to set up and £25 million a year to run, with the annual

pected to announce an addi-tional, selective cull of cattle in a bid to eradicate RSE Once the accelerated cull is

Announcing the compute programme yesterday, Mr Hogg said: "Renewing con-sumer confidence in British beef is vital, here and abroad. Knowing exactly where ani mals are born, and where they go is crucial to that pro-cess. It is in the farming industry's interests to embrace this scheme wholeheartedly."

Britain a barcode. The farmer will have a series of forms on postcards with barcode stickers to send in everytime a cow is moved, sent to market or abbatoir. The problem for the farmer is that the EU is still considering its own pro posals for a Europe-wide cat tle register and the British system must dovetail or there

#### Number of refugees detained has tripled bers being held has more than tripled from the 1993 figure of lion a year and the Home Alan Travis Home Affairs Editor

HE number of asylum seekers detained in Brit-ain has more than tripled in the last three years with 850

the last three years with 850 held on any one day, according to an Amnesty International report published today. The Amnesty survey of 150 asylum cases also shows that the cost of holding these detainees has reached 220 mil-

Office is repeatedly violating international human rights treaties against arbitrary arrest and detention.
The international human rights charity also says that British ministers have consis-

tently misled Parliament by claiming that asylum seekers are normally held in detention only after their applications have been refused.

The Amnesty report, Cell Avenue Culture, says that the num-

250 a day after the opening of privately-run detention facili-ties at Oxford and Gatwick airport and a specialist prison at Rochester, Kent Increased use of detention followed repeated tightening of the asylum laws. Cell Culture, Amnesty

International, 99-119 Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 4RE.

Hogg will barcode all combat BSE

costs being paid for by the farming industry. Each farmer will have to pay up to \$300 a year in fees. Minister, Douglas Hogg, is ex-

under way, the Government is expected to claim it has done all it can to ensure British beef is safe so the beef export ban can be lifted.

The privately-run computer m will give each cow in

The consultation period or

Kathy Evans in Doha talks to the woman emerging from the twilight zone into a role in public life as part of the Gulf's first royal team

# 'First lady' of Arabia opens door for women

a role in public life. women have been, officially, almost non-existent.

The royal purdah is about to be broken by Sheikha Moza bint Nasser al-Misned, who is married to the Qatari emir,

At the moment, she can life. The shelkha, who is in her thirties, has not yet appeared on television and still forbids photographs. On the other hand, she has just

WIFE of the Gulf's Qatari women graduates, she youngest ruler is had meetings with a number taking the first tenformer president George Bush, former secretary of state
James Baker and the Republican Speaker Newt Gingrich.
Travelling unaccompanied

by a close male relative, and having public meetings with men, is unprecedented for the spouse of a Gulf ruler. Women royals of Arabia rarely have contact with me own family.

Although not on state busi

ness officially, Sheikha Moza was investigating the possibility of establishing an American university for the educational foundation she made, for Guif women, a land-mark visit to the United States. has formed in Qatar. Such a university would have national importance to the

Since becoming the emir-ate's first lady, she has cut a figure sharply in contrast with many other wives of rulers on the Arabian peninsula She has a BSc in sociologi

'A lot of women now need to work to help their families'

fluent English and works out four times a week. Her status among the emir's three wives — she is the second and younest — was recently reconfirmed by the appointment of her son Jassim, aged 18, as the crown prince.

She is also a beauty. Tall and willowy, with black eyes and hair, Sheika Moza cuts a Others still prefer the Gulf new style among the Gulf royals, known for their over-dressing. For her first inter-view with a British journalstereotype lifestyle of endless shopping sprees or seclusion

grey-blue tones, a white blouse and three-inch heels. "Times are changing. The subject of women is no longer taboo," she said. "God created us to be equal and there is no reason why they shouldn't

ist, she wore a simple full

length Armani suit in muted

Sheikha Moza's emergence coincides with growing confusion in the Gulf about the role and identity of women. Al-though guaranteed an education, many are pushing for an end to segregation in offices and restrictions on certain recent austerity measures, a that they need to work.

Local television provides no guidance or role models. Women are either singers wearing slit dresses and heavy doses of lip gloss, or ap-pear as subservient wives and

mothers in soap operas.

"The image on television is not correct. We have a lot of women now who need to work to help their families and this is not being reflected. First, the women of the Gulf have to identify our goals. We have to learn our capabilities and believe in ourselves. Once we do that, we can achieve anything," said she added. "I don't want our women to fall into the trap of foreign concepts. It is against our culture that women live

'Change has to come gradually and naturally to avoid a reaction'

independently and separately from their families," she said. "Change also has to come gradually and naturally to avoid a reaction."
Sheikha Moza's emergence

Western-style feminism | Gulf leaders to have been was not suitable for the Gulf, born in the post-oil generaborn in the post-oil genera-tion and, since coming to power 18 months ago, has encouraged open political de-bate on previously taboo subjects. Gulf rulers have reacted uncomfortably to his new style of leadership.
The sheikha's activities

could prove even more worrying to them. Next year, she is planning to hold the region's first convention of Gulf women to discuss their role in the workplace and the fam-ily. Speakers will include leading women academics from the US and Britain, public figures and representatives of women's groups around the Gulf.

Asked if the convention would discuss controversial subjects, such as the right to may emerge which are controversial, but this is normal, isn't it? I hope to create good

At home, many Qataris and diplomats are wondering whether the emirate is witnessing the emergence of the Gulf's first "royal team". She and her husband talk affectionately about each other (unheard of in the Guif) and Sheikha Moza frequently refers to "we" in talking about

Since becoming first lady, she has established a founda-tion for science education and social development, which works with the mentally handicapped. It led her to have frequent contacts with male doctors and academics. "I see them when it is neces

# **Israel approves** 132 homes in **Arab Jerusalem**

SRAELI city planners in Jerusalem yesterday ap-proved 132 Jewish homes Arab neighbourhood.

Palestinians, including several of Yasser Arafat's officials, warned last night that the plan would unleash a wave of violence reminiscent of the bloody clashes which followed the opening of an ar-chaeological tunnel near the

al-Aqsa mosque in September.
The Jewish enclave, which
will be partly financed by an Moskowitz, is to be built in the Ras al-Amoud neighbourhood in Arab east Jerusalem.

Israel's minister of interior Eliyahu Suissa, announced the decision and defended the right of Jews to live in any part of Jerusalem. But, he added: "We will also build homes for Arabs. There is no reason why the Arabs should

A special committee set up by the interior ministry had plan for several years. Earlier this week, it heard objections from Arab landowness. from Arab landowners who compared the decision to lem who married foreign opening a discotheque in the nationals have also been told heart of an ultra-orthodox Jewish neighbourhood.

Nuha Elghoul, a Palestinian headmistress who lives in

than 15,000 Arabs. "This is discrimination." she said. "On the one hand, proved 132 Jewish homes they prevent the Arabs from being built in the centre of an building homes, but on the other they allow Jews to build

freely in Arab Jerusalem." The Palestinian minister Husseini, sharply criticised the scheme and said it was part of Israel's unrelenting effort to Judaise Arab Jerusa lem, where more than 160,000 Jews have settled since the 1967 Middle East war.

The speaker of the Palestinslative council, Ahmed tempt to kill the peace process It is very dangerous and Israel should expect a reaction."

Israel's Peace Now move-ment also feared that the decision would lead to renewed

cuse Israel of finding ways to drive out Jerusalem's 150,000 Arab residents: hundreds of families recently lost their right to remain in the city be-Arab women from Jerusa-

been cancelled. This affects several thousand women who Ras al-Amoud, said the Israeli West Bank or Palestinian government was making "a men living in Jordan.



Palestinian demonstrators pray in front of a bulldozer yesterday after they stopped it being used by Jewish settlers trying to claim land in the Jordan Valley Photograph: RULA HALAW

# NZ coalition

Giles Wilson in Wellington

FTER two months of post-electoral manoeu-vring New Zealand's National Party prime minis-ter, Jim Bolger, has formed a coalition with the nationalist New Zealand First, depriving the Labour leader Helen Clark of the opportunity of be woman prime minister.

But the stability of the part-nership with NZF's Maori one-time National cabinet minister and for three years a fierce opponent of his former It was Mr Peters who an

nounced yesterday that the conservative National Party had beaten Labour for his support in forming a coalition a remarkable volte face for the man who campaigned on the promise that a vote for him would put Mr Bolger and his finance minister, Bill Birch, out of office.

Now he is to be Mr Bolger's number two as deputy prime minister and treasurer — the latter a new and so far undefined post, although Mr

Mr Bolger played down past acrimony between Mr Peters and himself, accepting that journalists would recall the insults which the two have | see it as a betrayal."

traded but saying that it would be "irrelevant". The agreement puts Mr Pe-ters at risk of losing the sup-port of Maori voters, who

ended a 60-year association with Labour to back him. Many may go back to Labour rather than be seen propping up a National government. Mr Peters is widely thought to have chosen National because he reckons that the social policy concessions he was able to gain from it will be more attractive at the next

The concessions include the promise of higher spending on health, education, law and order, and pensions.
If these can be delivered

election than anything he could achieve in coalition

without damage to the econo-my, NZF will be in a good po-sition to make gains at the next election — providing that it has not irreparably splintered by then.

Mr Peters announced his decision at a press conference without even telling Mr Bolger what he and his MPs had decided. He claimed that there was a "massive consen sus" for joining forces with

National. An angry Helen Clark said: "It's not only a major disappointment for us, it's a major disappointment for New Zealanders who voted for a gov-

### Bolger remakes Computer firm ordered to Saddam fails to hit right pay \$6m for wrist injuries | button to satisfy West

ian Katz in New York

ordered the computer manufacturer Digital Equipment to pay \$6 million (£3.75 million) in damages to three office workers who claimed that they had suffered repetitive stress injury as a result of using the company's keyboards.
The case was hailed yesterday as a legal landmark. The women's lawyer, Steven Philips, said it was the first such claim to suc-

known as carpal tunnel syndrome but did nothing

ernment of change. Many will

ment that there was no sci-entific evidence that key-boards caused injuries of the kind suffered by the JURY in Brooklyn has three women, and said it would seek to have the deci-

ed in court. "We've settled cases be fore and we've tried cases that have lost," he said. He told the court Digital knew some of its keyboards could cause a form of repet-itive stress injury (RSI)

third woman, a hospital billing clerk, received \$278,000. to help its customers mini-mise the risk to their

The jury appears to have been swayed by evidence that Digital operated its own in house programme to prevent RSI, but made no attempt to warn other em-ployers of the dangers it had recognised. "They knew how to fix

sion overruled. Carpal tunnel syndrome is a condition in which tissue in the wrist becomes in-flamed and exerts pressure on nerves. Victims suffer from chronic pain and may

ultimately lose the use of their hands. Patricia Geressy, aged 50, a secretary and the most severely injured of the women, has had four operations since she began suf-

fering from the condition. The jury awarded her almost \$5.4 million. Jill Jackson, aged 42, a legal secretary whose elbow was affected, was awarded \$306,000. The

the problem and they kept quiet so they could sell their equipment, Mr Philps said.

Employers in the United States pay out \$60 billion a year in compensation to employees suffering from RSI, but until now no com-puter company has been held liable for injuries caused by using its

In other cases this year juries absolved IBM of any esponsibility for injuries suffered by workers using

Legal experts warned yes-terday that the Digital udgment could prove to be 'an aberration".

celebration

**News in brief** 

At least 70 Hindu pilgrims, mostly women and children, died when the lorry on which they were travelling over-

70 die in tragic turned into a pond in Bihar Army purge state. Press Trust of India said The Turkish hig there were 150 passengers riding on top of a load of boulders, returning from a pilgrimage to celebrate th driver's purchase of the

The Turkish high military council sacked more than 70 officers yesterday in an attempt to rid the army of Is lamic militants and other extremists. Fifty others have been purged for similar reasons this year.—AP.

#### NBC settlement

NBC is to pay Richard Jewell, the security guard initially pected of the Atlanta Olympic Park bombing in July, an undisclosed sum in an out-ofcourt settlement of a libel claim. — New York Times.

Parisian round-up French police arrested about a dozen people in and around Paris yesterday in connection with last week's Paris rallway station bombing, which killed four. — AP.

David Hirst in Beirut reports on a day of propaganda, theatre and confusion

as Iraq switches the oil back on

RESIDENT Saddam proceeds will go on food, medicine and humanitarian rain yesterday to preside over celebrations to mark.

The Iraqi government will Iraq's long-awaited "return to vorld oil market But it appears that when he threw the switch that should have set the oil flowing for the first time in six years,

nothing happened.

Reports said this embar rassing setback, kept hidder from the Iraqi people, was caused by an untimely power failure in the oil-producing region of Kirkuk, 160 miles north of Baghdad.

But in New York, sources at the United Nations said that Iraq had aborted the pumping operation because it realised it had jumped the gun on starting the flow before the UN had approved any contracts for delivery of oil.

They disputed reports that the oil flow was interrupted because of a technical fault on the pipeline. the United Nations said that

the pipeline. President Saddam switched

on the pipeline at 11.25am, after arriving unexpectedly at an outdoor ceremony in Kir-kuk marking what Iraq's official news agency said was the "return of Iraqi oil to world marketa". His appearance in military

fatigues, with senior govern-ment officials, led to carefullystaged jubilation among those present, who included hundreds of Iraqi citizens. Official media reports on the president's arrival troze

currency dealings amid expectations that the news significantly strengthen the dinar and cut

food prices. But no reports appeared locally on the hitch in oil pumping. Under the "oil-for-food"

buy the food, which will then be distributed under UN supervision throughout Iraq and in the Western-protected

The pumping of Iraqi oil has been dogged by delays, caused mainly by US-Iraqi



Saddam presses the button to start the flow of Iraqi oil

disputes over the interpreta tion of the UN-sponsored agreement, and by US anger at President Saddam's military incursion into Kurdistan in September.

A diplomat in Baghdad sald the Iraqi people "will con-clude that there is a beginning of a change only when the first truckloads of food actually arrive". That could take up to three months. But for the regime, at least,

yesterday was to have been an occasion for rejolcing. The president clearly intended to make the most of it - he now

Under the "oil-for-food"
deal. Iraq can export
\$3 billion (£1.25 billion) of oil
every six months; half the lant tone. "Yes to Saddam

Hussein, who broke the sand tions and set Iraq's oil free," said al-Jumhuriyah. "The people's beloved one said it ... prosperity is on the way,' said al-Qadissiya.

Maw Higgary .

The deal promises to ease the people's increasingly des-perate plight. But for the regime it is more than that. For the past two weeks, officials have been confidently forecasting that the deal is a prelude to the lifting of UN sanctions.

The president's plan to preside over the switching-on ceremony had not been announced in advance. The official news agency, announcing the visit in a four-line urgent report from the ceremony, said he had "pressed the but-ton in Kirkuk's Number One pumping station at 11.25am, declaring the return of Iraqi

At first it appeared that the president's late arrival had caused a delay in starting the pumps, but later in the day, at Ceyhan, 600 miles away on the Mediterranean, officials of the Turkish oil company Botas said there was no still no sign of the oil. They attributed this to a power failure in Kirkuk. The official Iraqi media breathed no word of the prob-lem, and journalists taken to Kirkuk were not informed.

The pumping failure did not stop popular festivities dancing and folksong - from going ahead. But, curiously, there were no accounts of President Saddam appearing before his grateful and joyous

 Britain is furious over the US decision to withdraw 4,000 mostly Kurdish personnel working with Americanbased or financed charities in northern Iraq, arguing that this sends the wrong message to President Saddam about the West's commitment to protect the Kurdish area, lan

Black in London reports. The US evacuation is also certain to affect the UN's food distribution plans now get-



0171 240 8800



Research shows that charitable giving by the very wealthy is directly tied to the tax rate. The dominant urge seems to give it to charity rather than let the government get hold of it. Charles Nevin

G2 page 4

#### Historic moment for rainbow state

# Mandela seals the new South Africa

Ruaridh Nicoli

ELSON MANDELA put South Africa on firm foundations yesterday when he signed the new constitution into existence on the historic and sun-soaked earth of Sharpeville. It marked the end of six

tough years of negotiations.
"It's the end of 344 years of "It's the end of 344 years of struggle for national unity and lasting peace," said Cyril Ramaphosa, chairman of the constitutional assembly, as he passed the 150-page blackbound document to his president. Four thousand people cheered as Mr Mandela signed one of the world's most liberal constitutions into existence.

existence.

"We solemnly honour the pledge we made to ourselves and to the world, that South Africa shall redeem herself and thereby widen the frontiers of human freedom," Mr Mandela said, pausing while six military helicopters, trail-ing the South African flag, flew past.

The constitution is based on a bill of rights which up-holds an array of entitlecreation, guaranteeing gay rights and coming close to outlawing censorship. But it has contentious passages. There were mumblings about its disdain for federalism, but these died down after the constitutional court orderd Mr Ramaphosa's assembly to redraft the document earlier

Once into his address, Mr Mandela departed from the text prepared by those he refers to as his "bosses" and began to speak from the heart. He said South Africa must be controlled by South Africans and he went on to talk of his "unshakeable de termination that respect for human life and liberty be enshrined as right and beyond any power to diminish". His audience had streamed

into the George Thabe footbell stadium in Sharpville, past the guns of soldiers brought in to ensure the

Once on the terraces, they quickly framed the pitch with

'It's the end of 344 years of struggle for national unity and lasting peace'

Cyril Ramaphosa

We solemnly honour the pledge we made to ourselves and to the world. that South Africa shall redeem herself and thereby widen the frontiers of freedom'

'We will redeem the faith which fired those whose blood drenched the soil of Sharpeville and elsewhere in our country and

Nelson Mandela

beyond'

brightly coloured umbrellas to escape the intense sun. Basil Noah, from Pretoria admitted to mixed feelings.
"The majority of what the
government have done has
been lousy," he said. "But it's a quantum leap from where tion Commission and walked

Mr Mandela was joined on stage by many of the country's leaders, although the National Party's P. W. de Klerk was absent. The signing was watched by a group who survived the 1960 Sharpeville massacre, in which 69 people died.

The slaughter — which turned the eyes of the world on apartheid — provided the backdrop to the ceremony.

Earlier yesterday Mr Mandela spent hours at the site of the shooting, where he un-

the shooting, where he un-veiled a plaque. It said: "Those who gave their lives for a free and just South

After signing the constitu-tion, Mr Mandela called on South Africans to pay tribute to the victims of apartheid by moving jointly towards peace. "We will redeem the faith which fired those whose blood drenched the soil of Sharpeville and elsewhere in our country and beyond," he

"Today we humbly pay trib-ute to them in a special way. This is a monument to their

The British received a special mention. Sharpeville is part of Vereeniging where, on May 31 1902, the British and the Boers signed a treaty which led to the Union of South Africa, thereby disentranchising the black populafranchising the black population for 92 years. "Today we reclaim the

unity that the Vereeniging of nine decades ago sought to deny," Mr Mandela said. "We give life to our nation's prayer for freedom regained and a continent reborn." There were many who

echoed that sentiment as the crowd watched their political leaders drive away. "We are going to be free now for sure," said Posty Moeti, aged 23. South Africa's truth com-

mission pardoned one of apartheid's most notorious lecision likely to test the limits of national reconciliation. Brian Mitchell, the former policeman serving a 30-year sentence for the murder of 11 people in 1988, was granted amnesty by Bishop Desmond Tutu's Truth and Reconcilia-

free from jail hours later.



Nelson Mandela signs the new constitution into law yesterday, watched by Cyril Ramaphosa, chairman of the constitutional assembly. The ceremony was held in Sharpeville, where 69 people were massacred in 1960

PHOTOGRAPH: ADIL BRADLOW

# **Greek farmers** dig in for a fight to the finish

Helena Smith in Athens

REEK farmers who have left the country in chaos with their fortnight-long rail and road blockade rejected a govern-ment olive branch last night and dug in for indefinite warfare

An emergency cabinet meeting failed to resolve the worst revolt in modern Greek history but annouced that the prime minister. Costas Simitis, was willing to negotiate.

Mr Simitis insisted, however, that the farmers demand for billions of drachmas

could not be met. The farmers complain that the government's budget, de-signed to meet the European Union criteria for a single currency, is too stringent.
In a nationally televised

address, Mr Simitis promised to sit down with the farmers and talk if they first removed the 100-plus blockades they have erected across the main and secondary roads and railways. But the farmers, meeting at

their headquarters in Larissa, immediately rejected the offer, described it as a "provo-cation" and vowed to con-tinue the blockade "until the bitter end".

The government has done nothing to meet our demands, and therefore we will not be withdrawing said a state ment by Thanassis Nasikas, a leading member of the farm-

"Our decision is that we will continue our struggle and call on more farmers to reinforce our blockades ... The premier hasn't figured out what's happening here."
As he spoke farmers were

ens, to prevent lorries reaching the capital by sea from the already cut-off southern port of Patras.

Many of the farmers have described the blockade as a 'holy war" they will fight to the end. Innumerable lorries, including hundreds from Brit-

ain, have been trapped by the

barricades, which have cut the country in half and sealed its international borders.
"I understand the problems
of those working in the agricultural sector, who Pasok [the governing Socialist Party] has always supported, and the government is willing to discuss them." Mr Simitis

"But demands for billions [of drachmas] cannot be satisfied. To do so would be a step backwards. It would mean we would miss the targets we have set to enable Greece to play a role in the European Union."

The blockade has shut scores of northern factories and left many towns and cities short of food.

Yesterday the lorry drivers' union pleaded with the farmers to lift the slege, saying that thousands of foreign truckers were suffering severe hardship and had reached the point of despair. With Greece braced for a

barrage of public service strikes in the next 10 days, also in protest at the austerity programme, Mr Simitis avoided saying how he would lift the blockade if the farm-

ers rejected his offer. He has said he would rather his government fell than give into the farmers' demands.

Mr Nasikas said the farmers could mobilise thousands more to join the battle against the government's "criminal harbour of Aghios Nikolaos, European Union budget" if about 125 miles west of Ath-

### Embryonic euro may be born into broken home

reports that the monetary union

partnership looks like coming unstuck

HE monetary marriage between France and Germany which was expected to produce a baby euro at the beginning of 1999 suddenly looks to be

on the rocks.

After a year of wrangling over the terms of economic and monetary union and how the single currency will be run after its launch, the crunch could come tomorrow evening in Dub-

lin when European Union finance ministers meet to thrash out a deal.

They will be trying to balance Germany's insistence on iron-clad fiscal disipline with French-led demands for a more relaxed regime and greater political lee-way in setting monetary, fiscal and economic policy.

The two sides failed to bridge their differences at a Franco-German summit in Bavaria on Monday. President Jacques Chirac of France took a public potshot at the German financtal elite by stressing that the independence of the future European central bank had to be matched by a political counterweight.
In short, he argued that
France and most other EU
countries did not want the

single currency run the way Germany, through its powerful and constitutionally independent Bundes-bank, runs the mark. But Bonn, reluctant any-

chances, will only adopt the euro if it is governed by Bundesbank-style rigour. Germany is therefore insisting on a stability pact, which would define limits on deficit spending, auto-matically fine single-currency members who breach the limits, and specify when exceptions could be made. As many of these

way to sacrifice the mark

and not prepared to take

pean central bankers. Paris counters that such decisions are essentially political and should be taken by democratically ac-countable politicians.

powers as possible would be in the hands of the Euro-

The Germans shudder at the "politicisation" of monetary policy, fearing it would result in horsetrading among EMU governments, thereby jeopardising monetary stability and weakening the euro. A fundamental diverture and role of the central | millionaire.

lan Traynor in Bonn | bank is being fed by the two countries' different histories, cultures, experiences and attitudes.

Senior German officials fed up with being accused of dictating the terms of the single currency, point out that France came up with EMU as a way of harnessing the strength of the mark while diluting the Bundes-bank's influence in the wake

of German reunification.
The French hope EMU can destroy the power of the Bundesbank; the Germans will only accept EMU if it is under a bigger and better Bundesbank.

Hans Tietmeyer, the Bundesbank's chief, is becoming the project's pet bogeyman. This week in the German magazine Der Spiegel, a leading French academic lambasted him as a "medieval high priest", and told Germans their dogmatic devotion to mone-tary stability had become a

national religion. This sentiment is rooted in the disasters of the 1920s and 1930s when wheelbar-row inflation destroyed the national currency, wiped out savings and paved the way for the rise of the Nazis. The Bavarian prime min-ister, Edmund Stoiber, who is the nearest Germany has to a powerful Eurosceptic, is already playing on these fears by insisting that Germany cannot and will not relax its EMU conditions. Any loosening of the sta-bility pact, he warned on Monday, would leave the European currency less

stable than the mark. "That means inflation, higher interest rates, more unemployment, loss of value," he said. Such talk alarms Germans.

But why, the French im-plicitly ask, should Ger-many's fears about the return of the Weimar Republic force us to yoke our economic policy-making to such discipline.

The Germans, although relatively isolated, are not giving in. Theo Waigel, the finance minister and architect of the stability pact, said Bonn was in no hurry for a deal in Dublin and that the stablity pact could wait until next year. His hardline deputy, Jür-

gen Stark, has threatened

to boycott the stability pact negotiations if Bonn cannot have its way. He will wait till EMU is launched and then seek bilateral deals with other EMU members. There may be a fudge in Dublin, but the argument will not be over: both sides will invoke "the spirit of the Maastricht treaty" in their support. If you could bottle that spirit and sell it, you would soon be a euro-

# China anoints paradox as powerbroker and pawn

**Andrew Higgins** concludes his series on Hong Kong with a profile of the man China will put in charge of the former colony

OON after arriving in Hong Kong in 1983, the man appointed by Deng Kizoping as China's plenipotentiary in the colony made a

) hit right

less than dazzling discovery.
"I began to realise that the political inclinations of businessmen are usually linked to their business. They lean towards whoever supports them in trade or finance," recalls Xu Jiatun, China's senior official here until 1990. "I suggested that we use our resources to foster a group of pro-China capitalists."

The theory was quickly put into practice. In 1985, China stepped in with \$120 million (£75 million) to help bail out the shipping empire of a Hong Kong family previously far more partial, at least in public. to Taiwan and Princess Grace of Monaco than the cadres of the Chinese Com-

munist Party. Today, 11 years after Beijing helped set up the world's third biggest corporate ball-out (after Chrysler and Lock-heed), the businessman saved from bankruptcy will be named as Chris Patten's successor, the first post-colonial chief executive of Hong Kong.

a carefully screened 400-members at a mong Kong temple and praising traditional values in an 18-page tional v

Tung Chee-hwa, or C. H. as he is often called, is 59, a fan of Confucius who sends his children to university in America, a Chinese patriot who left China, a man whose given name means "build China" but who used to cheer on Liverpool Football Club from the Kop. This morning he will become the pro-China capitalist the Communist Party chooses to run Hong

Kong.
"He owes China a big favour, but so do many busi-nessmen," said David Chu, a property millionaire who met Mr Tung when they worked together at a General Electric plant near Boston in 1968. He sees Mr Tung's intimate

connection with China as an asset not a handicap. knows how to communicate with Chinese leaders. They have a different set of values. Imost like alien beings."

In the weeks preceeding his confirmation this morning by a carefully screened 400-member selection committee, Mr Tung has spoken Beiling's language. He emerged from relative obscurity to toe Chi-ma's line with a consistency.



critics and surprised even some veteran pro-China politicians.

He told the democrats that they must change, warned Tibet support groups to pack their bags, echoed Chinese conspiracy theories about "hostile foreign forces", and declined to join those demanding leniency for the Hong Kong journalist Xi Yang, who was jailed for 12 years in China for an interest-

"He is going to do what he the is going to do what he is told. He is going to be very tough and he will obey orders," said Emily Lau, a democrat member of the legis-

lative council. "The things he has been saying in the past few weeks show us that he is through and through a Communist

Most of Hong Kong prefers to see a classic conservative a view Mr Tung has encour aged by paying homage to Confucius at a Hong Kong temple and praising tradi-tional values in an 18-page "election" manifesto. An offsiderable charm and modesty.

He waits in the queue at immigration, even in Beijing, and uses a BMW in a city with more Rolls Royces per capita than any other — though the car does carry the less than proletarian badge of the Corps Consulairs, an em-blem of his role as honourary consul for Monaco A graduate of Liverpool

University in marine engi-neering, he was a regular at Anfield. Last year he watched Liverpool lose to Manchester United at Wembley in the Cup final. He also took to Ameri can football during nearly 10 years working in the United States.

Despite his years in Liverpool, San Francisco, Boston and the hybrid east-west city of Hong Kong, he champions the values of the country he left at the age of 12, when his father, C.Y. Tung, the founder of the family shipfor Hong Kong just before Mao Zedong's revolution. "The Americans attach a

great deal of importance to their rights," he said recently. "I am not saying that they are wrong but I think, for us Chinese, obligations are more important."
Such comments alarm democrats. Beijing, with its investment of trust and, in the

past, money, is delighted.
"He is the type that appeals

apore's stern, paternalistic for the Betterment of Hong Kong. "He is the only one who, in the eyes of Chinese officials, has not done any of the firm, with more than thing wrong or said anything brought him into the orbit— and trust — of Beijing busi-ness interests and officials. inappropriate."

But are these the talents

needed to preserve the "high degree of autonomy" prom-ised to Hong Kong after July 1 under the formula of "one country, two systems"?
Mr Tung's only experience year stint on Mr Patten's ex-

'He knows how to communicate with Chinese leaders. They have a different set of values. Almost like

ecutive council, where he op-posed political and most other reforms. Some even challenge his reputation in business, questioning a carefully con-structed orthodoxy that he rescued the family shipping empire from his father's excesses.
"The father died in April

alien beings'

1982. The problems did not emerge until 1985 after the sons decided to buy 30 new ship ... This is not the father's folly. Things started to go wrong when C. H. and his brother took over," said Stephen Kentwell, an Australian shipping expert who has written a study of the Tung

months ago, a reticence at-tributed to the family's ties to Taiwan. The subject remains sensitive and rarely elicits more than brief answers. Mr Tung told the South China Morning Post: "If you are trying to get me to suggest I am going to be so grateful (to China], that I will not be look ing after Hong Kong people's interests, you know what the answer is."

Those seeking details are

But it was the near-collapse

\$2.5 billion of debt in Septem-ber 1985, that helped launch

Mr Tung's political career. It

China's role in the bail-out

was not formally acknowl-

edged by Mr Tung until two

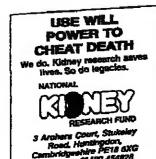
shadowy Hong Kong tycoon who acted as the front man for the Chinese rescue opera-tion. Mr Fok, who allegedly made his initial fortune from busting sanctions against China during the Korean War, never gives interviews. Bankers involved in the rescue plan, which took nearly two years to put together, praise Mr Tung's powers of persuasion and tenacity. But the secrecy surrounding it remains a cause

told to consult Henry Fok, a

for concern.
Why would the Commu nists lend so much money to the Tung family?" asked Ms Lau. "What is it between them. I don't think we will ever know. But that is a clear signal they know the family very well and trust them. The relationship between this family and the Chinese Communist Party is very deep."

# Nato takes tough line with Russia on new members

yesterday that it will start admitting new members from central Europe



sation to give a much bigger role to its European members and it will also conclude a new Atlantic Partnership Council, designed to link Nato with 40 other countries in western and eastern Europe and the former Soviet

Nato also wants to conclude a privileged relationship with

were suggestions that the en made conditional on a new agreement with Russia but that was not acceptable to Nato," Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, said in Brussels. "To accept that

said. France played down its dif-

United States on Nato reorganisation, saying its demands that the alliance's European regional commands be put

The Nato declaration that had "no intention, no plan its enlargement strategy is and no need to station nuits enlargement strategy is now irreversible came as the Russian government restated its opposition to eastward expension by the alliance.

All in the restaurance weapons on the territory of any new members". It is also expected to reassure Mr Primakov that it has no Before meeting the Russian plans for the permanent foreign minister, Yevgeni Pristationing of foreign troops pension by the alliance.

ferences yesterday with the

would be to accept an exterforeign minister, Yevgeni Primakov, in Brussels today, Nato foreign ministers are nounced yesterday that a special summit in Madrid next July would decide which members, widely tipped to be poland. Hungary, the Czech next July would decide which members are nounced yesterday that a special summit in Madrid next July would decide which countries should be selected countries should be selected to tackle three broad issues which will help share for the 21st century," Javier on the soil of the first new members, widely tipped to be poland. Hungary, the Czech members, widely tipped to be poland. Hungary, the Czech members, widely tipped to be poland. Hungary, the Czech members, widely tipped to be poland. Hungary, the Czech members, widely tipped to be poland. Hungary, the Czech members, widely tipped to be poland. Hungary, the Czech members, widely tipped to be poland. Hungary, the Czech members, widely tipped to be poland. Hungary, the Czech members are nounced yesterday that a special summit is intended on tackle international crime, nuclear non-proliferation and future peacekeeping missions similar to that in Bosnia.

The Madrid summit is intended to tackle three broad issues which will help share for the command of the first tagge of Nato enlargement would be "International crime, nuclear non-proliferation and future peacekeeping missions similar to that in Bosnia.

But although Nato is ready the first tagge of Nato enlargement would be "International crime, nuclear non-proliferation and future peacekeeping missions similar to that in Bosnia.

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But although Nato is ready to the first tagge of Nato on the first tagge of Nato enlargement would be "Internation nal veto over Nato."

"Membership of the EU also carries security implications for the Baltic states," he

ATO warned Russia | next year whether or not Russia | next year whether or not Russia | next year whether or not Russia | size agrees to forge a privileged partnership with the alleged partn next year whether or not have said last night.

said last night.

But in an attempt to make leged partnership with the alliance, writes John Palmer in lance, wri

# *The Guardian*

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### A fatal obsession

Europe is being debated by a narrow elite

TO LISTEN to Teresa Gorman MP in Labour member. In a logical world, the House of Commons at Question here would be a perfectly timed oppor-Time yesterday you would think that Europe was now the sole topic in every bar and home in the land. Mrs Gorman and her Conservative Eurosceptic supporters always behave as though the country is bursting to end Britain's membership of the European Union. Yesterday, the Billericay MP nastily told the Prime Minister that "the honest way" to deal with this pent-up wave of opinion was to hold an immediate referendum on Europe. She now intends to force the referendum issue on to the floor of the House in the New Year, though her private member's bill has not a hope of passing into law.

People like Mrs Gorman are in the grip of an obsession. They believe that they speak for the seething mass of British people. That belief is partly what lies behind the two-day debate on Europe which opens in the House of Commons today. This debate is taking place because the Eurosceptics believe genuine disjunction between the world the Commons to the Commons today. that the Government — and the Chan-cellor in particular — is trying to sell out British sovereignty in the run-up to the European summit in Dublin on Friday. They want to use these two days to tie Mr Clarke's and Mr Major's hands. They genuinely believe that they are engaged in a crusade which is being cheered on by the British - and more specifically the English — people.

Isn't it odd, therefore, that this week's big opportunity to test the temperature over Europe is being absolutely neas the Eurosceptics and the rightrow, caused by the death of the sitting | Merseyside West?

tunity to listen to the people. If the Eurosceptics were right, such a contest could put real pressure on the Government over Europe. What could be better than a European byelection on the eve of a European summit to force ministers to take notice of the popular will?

And yet, of course, the debate about Europe in Merseyside West is not seething at all. There is more debate in the average Trappist monastery than there is in this byelection. The majority of people are wholly unaware that it is even taking place. They will do excep-tionally well in Merseyside West if they manage a turnout of 20 per cent tomorrow. The result, what is more, is an absolute foregone conclusion. Labour will retain the seat by a large majority, while you will need strong binoculars

as politicians like to imagine it and the world as it actually exists. This country ought to be having a healthy and informed debate about its place in Europe. But the debate that is taking place is anything but that. It is a debate among a narrow elite, conducted in narrow terms and almost wholly unrelated to the world as most people experience it. If public opinion was really as aroused as Mrs Gorman pretends, then this pre-Dublin week would see a powerful convergence between what hapglected by all wings of the Conservative pens in the Commons and what hap-Party and by most of the political class as well? If there genuinely was a popular debate about Europe in this country rather than converging. Mr Major's riposte to Mrs Gorman, that there wing tabloid press try to pretend — should be a reasoned debate based on then all eyes would be focused on facts not scares, was admirable but Merseyside West, where there is a naive. If it doesn't happen in the Com-European Parliament by election tomor- mons, then why should it happen in



innumerable ways our civilisation could reduce its aggression and destructiveness. The causes of violence are deep and complex — as psychologists have demonstrated - but some of its most fundamental impulses can be tackled: drink, poor parenting, family breakdown, poor communication skills, poverty and inequality. They all pose challenges to a Conservative minister: ranging from drink because of the donations the minister's party receives from the industry to inequality which would nounced there would be a seminar next require the Government to return to year on the issue. the redistributive policies it abandoned much less fundamental: violence on

Her intervention yesterday in the the Government a penny, and second in | tions are unnecessary and unwelcome.

VIRGINIA BOTTOMLEY wants to [the way she sought to curry political tackle violence. Good for her. There are favour - including a leak of her "action plan" to the Daily Mail — a pretty empty gesture. The Heritage Secretary produced no new research on television violence, set out no new legislative proposals, and failed miserably to put into perspective television's contribution to violence. Instead, she invited television bosses to tighten their codes of practice governing gratuitous violence, called for clearer warnings to parents of the kind of material television programmes contain, and an-

Liberals have been guilty in the past 17 years ago. Yet the potential for of refusing to contemplate the link progress on these fronts is huge: more | between television and violence but not conciliation and mediation services anymore. Just because respectable would reduce the aggression in mar- researchers have failed to find a direct riage and divorce: more funds for the association should not pre-empt policymushrooming agencies promoting par makers from applying commonsense enting skills might really achieve a and recognising that links may exist. breakthrough on family life; tackling The advertising industry does not inthe threefold increase in children living | vest its billions in television for altruisin poverty since 1979 would have much | tic purposes but because of the mediwider benefits than just reducing vio- um's influence and pull. Television's lence. But Virginia Bottomley is not influence should not be exaggerated but concerned with any of these issues. She | it is important. The industry knows this ignored them as Minister for the Fam- | and has cut the amount of violence on ily and now, as Heritage Secretary, she | the screen in half since 1986 — down can only concentrate on something from 1.1 per cent to 0.6 per cent of programme time. Clearly, more could be done — and will be done. The BBC revised its codes this year and independebate on violence was cheap in two dent television is due to review its ways — first, in respect of it not costing | codes next year. Ministerial interven-

#### The Whitehall gaffe syndrome

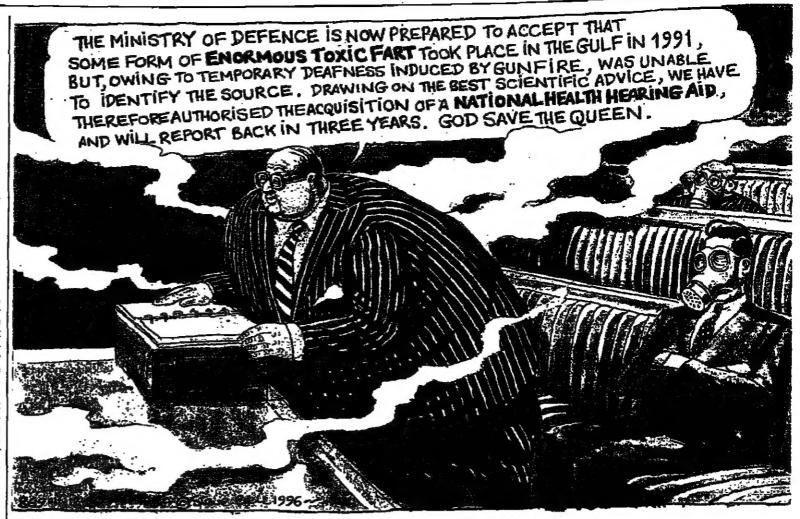
At last ministers admit what veterans have known for years

THE MINISTRY of Defence now admits | long ago. The MoD says that enough that there is such a thing as Gulf War | veterans with possible symptoms have illness — though not yet a Gulf War now been located to provide a meaning-syndrome. Yesterday, Nicholas Soames, ful base line. But they have been there the armed forces minister, told Parliament that some Gulf veterans "are suffering from sickness which medical science has so far found it difficult readily to explain." That is what the veterans have been saying all along. They do not claim there was one single cause — that is why they describe it as a "syndrome". Attention in Britain has focused on the use of organophosphate (OP) pesticides; in the US on the proximity of some servicemen to chemical weapons (whether used by Iraq or destroyed by Allied action). There is also general concern about the "cocktail" of vaccinations and tablets which many soldiers consumed.

The research now announced by Mr Soames makes good epidemiological there would still be no proper (though sense, but it should have been initiated long overdue) programme of research.

ful base line. But they have been there all along, only waiting to be identified. The new programme will only be completed nine years after the actual war. Meanwhile, some suspect procedures could be repeated in the field.

Mr Soames seems to be admitting that his ministry has made a mess of things while denying that there was ever any intention of a cover-up. Perhaps not deliberately, but the MoD's leisurely approach suggests at the very least a callous disregard. The misleading information supplied to ministers on the use of OPs — now the subject of a separate investigation - suggests something worse. The lobbying efforts of MPs and the veterans were scoffed at by the Government. Without them there would still be no proper (though



#### Letters to the Editor

#### EMU: fudge, fact and fiction

AM amazed, although per-haps by now I should not be, at the Government's hypoc-risy in accusing other nations of "fudging the figures" to ensure compliance with the convergence criteria for entry into EMU, when they themselves are fudging all sorts of figures to the people of this country (Not a sincle reason) country (Not a single reason

to join, December 9). The scale of a nation's debt, the PSBR, is one of the main criteria for membership of EMU and which has to be no more than a certain percent-age of GDP to qualify. In simple terms, this means that the country has not borrowed more than it can reasonably repay without causing a destabilising effect on the economy, in much the same way that I would have to satisfy my book monager that I can my bank manager that I can repay a loan without getting into financial difficulties.

It has taken John Major only five years to double the PSBR from a figure that took his predecessors some 150 years to accumulate. He has borrowed not for investment but to give away politically-expedient tax cuts, which his Chancellor realises could now jeopardise EMU first-stage So, in order to fudge the fig-

ures, he creates the Private Finance Initiative, whereby various projects that should come out of government funding — such as roads and school-building — are now supposed to be funded by the PFI. This means that the contractors are obliged to raise the finance by borrowing from their banks, issuing bonds, or whatever, and the Government undertakes to repay them from normal tax revenues, over anything up to 30 years — thus not only hy-pothecating for years ahead the tax revenues of the people, but also saddling future administrations with the burden of their crass mis

They are doing exactly what they accuse Johnny For eigner of doing. Michael Allan

Swanmead, Warminster Road, Wiltshire SP2 0QW.

WHILE I largely agreed with Larry Riliott's case against EMU, he is being over-optimistic in suggesting that the adoption of a single European language (English, obviously) would solve the problems that a single cur-

rency will not.
The much-heralded advertisement by the European Movement states that "under no circumstances should the Government rule out partic ipation in a single European currency, now or in the future." It would be difficult, if not impossible, to find a student of English, linguistics, semiotics or lexicogra-phy who would interpret this to mean anything but "Brit-ain should enter the EMU at whatever terms are offered." It is equally certain that the great and the good who signed this advertisement

will deny it says any such Chris Jones. 20 Antonine Gate, St Albans, Herts.

WHAT a load of nonsense Ros Coward writes about the alleged trauma of getting used to using the euro (The euro in your pocket is deval-ued, December 9). Has she never spent 2 week or two abroad, using a different cur-rency? It only takes a couple of days before you stop mentally converting prices back into sterling and start to recognise the real value of prices in francs, pesetas or what-ever, and learn to judge a potential bargain. Andrew Rose. 441 Lordship Lane, London \$122

# Mixed views on mixed race

S an academic research- | legitimate. A number of | shown between various comer and a person who is happy to describe them-selves as being of "mixed race", I found Bernie Grant's contention that society views mixed-race people as being black both simplistic and a little dangerous (Row over plan for census race labels, December 9). In my own experience, "You would never know you were half-Paki-shani" is as common a response as being taken for being black or Asian, while suspicion, hostility, and even rejection from one or both of one's host communities has not been uncommon.

not been uncommon. While I accept that, in many fields, mixed-race people will suffer from the same racial discrimination as other ethnic groups, this is no reason for rejecting the con-cept of mixed race as a racial category. With mixed-race friends and relatives, I have witnessed some of the consequences of being made to choose between two racial groups, two cultures and two identities — ranging from the person deciding to adopt a more "English" name, to fullscale emotional breakdown.

If a mixed-race person views themselves more strongly on one side or another then that is fine. But Department of Politics and Public Policy, University of Luton, Park Square, Luton LU1 3JU. WHEN I arrived in Fiji on contract I was appalled to find that the colonial government classified everybody

1. European (naturally first);
2. Fijian; 3. Indian (all persons from the sub-continent);
4. Rotuman (an Island within the Fiji group); 5. Chinese;
6. Other Pacific Islanders and
7. PMENDS (Persons of mixed native and European de-

On independence six months later, the new, indigenous administration continued this system exactly as before despite considerable The new constitution required some voting to take Diace Within

when someone feels them-salves to be mixed race, such a view must be deemed to be ences in health statistics London NW3.

research projects that I have carried out found mixed race to be one of the most popular categories of ethnicity. (Dr) Usman Awais Khan.

into seven racial groups:

scent). Every government document, driving licence, medical record, crime statis-tic etc contained this

group as well as on a common

than Indian ones; conversely. Indian mothers tended to have many more underweight babies. Clearly this informa-tion could only be gathered if a reliable system of racial classification was in place. However, the introduction of such classification in this

country is fraught with difficulty. It could only be useful if there were a limited num-ber of well-defined groups, well understood by everyone. That is not the case. The political implications are too terrible to contemplate; and far outweight any hypothetical benefits there might be in medical or sociological

John Hurdley. Birmingham B17.

T is comforting to see that people are thinking harder about issues of "mixed race". But why do we rigidly reinter-communal tension be affirm colour as the main way tween Fijiens and Indians. of distinguishing origin and race? Why do we not ask about white peoples' mixed e? Surely Jewish. Irish, European etc are also relevant? Lara Charles.

NE set of questions that is still not being asked is munities — for example.
Fijian mothers suffered a much higher incidence of post-partum haemorrhage ter of place origin, first knguage or colour of skin. The religion of the respondent provides a clear marker of a person's culture and beliefs. In today's Britain, which is a multi-faith society, religion. as well as racial origin, is

vitally important. Incidentally, when as an enlightened newspaper, are you going to stop the use of the sociologically and scientifically defunct word ruce? Nadeem Hai.

Lecturer in Sociology. Manchester Metropolitan University. Rosamond Street, Manchester M15 6LL.

HY, at the end of the 20th century in a multi-cultural country like ours, is the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys offering people a selection of ethnic

categories at all?
Why don't they ask people what they consider their ethnicity to be and just record the answer? This would surely preserve the credibil-ity of OPCS but, more imporserve the dignity of people questioned. David Shannon. Hertford SG13.



#### Change your tune, guys

YOUR leader (December 5) lovers of large-scale innova-on Guys and Dolls evades | tive and classical drama. the real question. This is not the status of the musical — it eds no defence — but the decision to occupy our main subsidised stage with its revival for at least three and a half months.

This cannot be defended. It adds to the glut of commercial West End musicals, abandons the valued repertory system

Even Richard Eyre, you report, had the grace to won ler if his tired idea was 'shameful".

What is so obviously in need of revival are the true spirit, purpose, energy and enterprise of our National

Arthur Scholey. 1 Cranbourne Road, and deprives serious theatre- London N10 2BT.

#### Crossing the line Air support

As Douglas Bader's most recent biographer, I knew the real man as well as any-one else alive (A hero is shot down - again, December 3). He was a great man in every way — not "a flawed hero". He helped hundreds of disabled people to survive and recover — all with no public-ity. He was infinitely cour-You say Bader's Big Wing

was only used "as back-up de-fence". In the later stages of the battle, it represented about one quarter of the total number of squadrons fighting the Luftwaffe. And it had

remarkable results.
As for Bader's claims of total losses by the Germans were put as 180 but later revealed as 75. This was wartime propaganda. If it hadn't been for people like Bader, we would not have won the second world war. His mem-

ory is immortal.
J F Turner. 302 The Metropole,

We do not publish letters where only an e-mail address is supplied; please include a full

THOSE of us who dish it out to politicians must expect to be shot at when we make mistakes. But there is a difference between a critic's opinton and malicious invention. Roy Greenslade (Media, De-cember 9) complains that it was "odd to see the BBC's Political Editor Robin Oakley giving the official No 10 line on Wednesday [about Major not bowing to pressure from Clarke] when it emerged the next day that he had bowed",

adding a gratuitous insult about my "willingness to ped-dle the Downing Street line". This is rubbish. I did not do a report on Wednesday. I did report on the Clarke/Major afyou're going to sit on the fence, do so firmly", and reported that the Prime Minister will stick to the compro-mise wait-and-see on a single currency whatever the Euro-sceptic grumbles.

Apart from proving correct, that was hardly the "Downing

Street line". I do not peddle anyone's line. I report what I find and will continue to do. Robin Oakley. BBC, Press Gallery, House of Commons, London SWIA OAA

#### A little difference of opinion

able and irrelevant. He claims that in the 1980s, I was "elo quently voicing ... dissenting views on multilateral disarmament and the Common Mar-ket". Rightly or wrongly, I did-no such thing. Instead, I loyally - or, if you like, stupidly - kept my trap shut and went along with the follies inflicted on the Labour Party by the destructive faction which had grabbed hold of the party and with which, characterically Section still identifies himself. House of Common

HE answer to the question of sex and violence on TV is quite simple. For a 12-month period, show only those films such as Dumbo, Mary Poppins and The Sound of Music II the birth-rate falls dramatically and violent crimes cease, the causes will be proven. If they | 58-59 Trafalgar Squarise, then Mrs Bottomley and | London WC2N 5DX.

London SWIA GAA

ARK SEDDON writes the kind of rubbish (Letters, December 10) that makes the publication be edits so unread-12 Horbury Crescent, London W11 3NF.

> THINK Alistair Darling's "scheming Medici courtier's style beard" (Labour star takes it on the chin, December 9) is absolutely delicious, perfect for an aspiring top politician. Have Labour's spin doctors not realised that this is the older man's designer beard? Inge Eveleigh. Flat 2, 9 De Cham Road, St Leonards's-On-Sea.

VOUR allegations that Rwanda government forces are fighting along with Zairian rebels in Eastern Zaire (December 3) are baseless and dangerous to already strained relations between Zaire and Rwanda Rwandan forces will hwanda. kwamaan note never fight in Zaire, (Dr) Z S Nsenga. Rwandan Ambassador, 58-59 Trafalgar Square,

#### **A Country Diary**

tiled quays at Morwellham are shiny wet and, outside the dock, the river runs high with sparkling eddies and currents sparking educes and currents swirling quietly in brown, muddy water. Beside baulks of timber, ropes and a tightly-shrouded hull, lies the Garlandstone with her distinctive, elliptical counter-stern and entire fiddiabased served. and pretty fiddlehead carved with oak leaves and acorns. The sturdy, 76-foot hull has been framed in English oak and planked with larch; the bulwark stanchions have yet to be planked up. For now, Tomi Nielsen and Co, traditional shipbuilders, rigging and marine engineers, are away in Gloucester, cutting out deck beams, the next stage in rebuilding this ketchrigged, 100-ton cargo vessel. With the belp of European and Millennium funds, Dartington Amenity Research Trust, which has Garland-stone on long-term charter, plans to launch next year and ventually restore her to full sailing condition.

This handsome merchant was the last to be

TAMAR VALLEY: The old | launched on the Tamar, built by James Goss in his yard on the Devon bank opposite Calstock. There, on a small patch of bard shingle, this highly-skilled, hard-working boat-builder, with his sons and workmen, hand-sawed tim-ber, much of it from nearby Cotchele, and fashioned it mainly into barges and boats for rowing clubs and the navy. Garlandstone, however, was their pride, constructed over six years, contemporary with the building of the adjoining railway viaduct. Launched in 1909, she carried cargoes around Britain, to Europe and Ireland for almost half a century.

In 1988, the dilapidated built was licenced for lowing back to home waters from North Wales. On a fast flooding tide, the two restraining tugs just cleared the viaduct's pillars and it was impossible to stop for Calstock's official welcome. The reception party followed in her wake, past derelict mine stacks and steep woods to Morwellham's dock. a mile upstrea

VIRGINIA SPIERS

### **Diary**

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Maria Pira

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Will the war

HARING AID

Matthew Norman

VACANCY occurs in the radio-ham department at Conservative
Central Office. Dr Julian Lewis, who has twiddled dials with distinction in the hunt for anti-Tory bias, has hung up his headphones. Julian is now concentrating on fighting the seat of New Forest East. Alas, he has made an unfortunate start. In another newspaper's diary, if was reported last week that my colleague Emily Barr would be standing against him, and had already toured the constituency in his presence. Although the claim is false — Emily will not be consulting the research. standing there (it was mooted, but with Scallywag fielding a candidate, we cannot split the vote), and has never visited the seat — Ju-lian's "office" was quoted as confirming it. Tut, tut. With some insolence, Ju-lian denies speaking to my so-called rival. "If it turns out that someone in my office said this," he explains, "I am prepared to tick them off and to apol-ogise." We have put Julian on final warning that, should this outrage be repeated, we will have him before my friend Lord Wakeham's Press Complaints Commission so fast, his feet won't touch the

Labour policy on em-ployment law, many will regard as a sublime irony, Oofy Wegg-Prosser has gone on rapid-rebuttal strike. Oofy refuses to discuss two apparent sins of omission by his master Mandy Mandelson. The first concerns the absence from an otherwise replete Who's Who entry of a spell during which, in 1981, Booth was the only Shadow Cabinet member to vote for Tony Benn as deputy leader. Having declared "Albert Booth is dead" — news that will shock many, not least Lord Booth - Oofy would go no further. He then declined to comment on why Mandy, hitherto a passionate Europhile and a key. member of the cross-party group, failed to sign the vert in Monday's Times. Is Mandy repositioning himself? Is New Labour shifting? Oofy's lips are sealed.

HE Diary's Christmas Card postbag begins to bulge, and yesterday brought the most eagerly awaited of all. After weeks of speculation about what Michael Winner would put suggested his new cost of arms, the jumbo knickers rampant — anti-climax seemed inevitable. Not a bit of it. Taking his innate humility off the leash, Michael has put on the front a portrait (by Peter Edwards) of himself. By way of convotes the back of the card to . . . a specially commissioned portrait (by Anne H Mackintosh) of himself. Lest anyone is reading this over a meal, I will not describe either.

ONCERNED by his Column's absence from last Friday's Mail, we call Terry Major-Ball. "I was disappointed," he admits. "but they were short of space, and assure me it will be back next week." Let us hope so. week." Let us notes of.
Terry has just returned
from an expedition to his
beloved Aliders of Croydon.
"I tried to write about Croydon recently, but they said columnists shouldn't write about their home town." says Terry, and excellent advice it is, especially from the paper with a feature entitled My Home Town. So to Terry's Christmas message: "Be true to others, and thereby to yourself." And upon this note of seasonal wisdom we say farewell.

ITH heavy heart, we come to the sup-plier of yesterday's message, Peter Bumley, who has reverted to the original spelling after charges of affectation. According to a feature on the artist Jonathan Yeo (son of Tim), Bumley paid something between £5,000 and 18,000 for a portrait of his wife. Knowing how much of the summer we devoted to Bumley Relief — the charity formed to alleviate the family's poverty after he asked for \$500 for a brief TV appearance defending his party — you can imagine that this news is very hard to take. Frankly, the sense of betrayal is unbearable. Et tu, Bumley? Et tu?

MOVING story of a dog's devotion to its master features in Dogs Today magazine. When his owner collapsed and was left defenceless in Bonn, Otto the Rottweiler bravely defended him against all comers for a full 12 minutes. Unfortunately, 12 minutes. Unfortunatery, all comers were paramedics keen to treat the 68-year-old for a coronary, and by the time they finally got Otto to move, he was dead. Still, it's the thought that counts.

# Take one cook book, simmer for hours

### Commentary

#### Catherine Bennett

F THE populace is, as so often alleged, fickle and contrary, mutable and capricious — why haven't we had enough of cooks? A few years ago, the market for celebrity pot-and-pan artistes already looked fit to burst; swollen with the restaurants and books, interviews and public appearances of Anthony Worrall-Thompson, Gary Rhodes, Marco Pierre White, Nico Ladenis and the rest. One such success, Alastair Little, expected it all to end at any time. "I think the public might actually be alightly rebelling against the celebrity chefs," he said. "They might like some recipes, and some sensible sort of stuff, but I think they're pretty sick of antics."

But antics continue. Antics and books, interviews and But antics continue. Antics are booming. One restaura-teur, Anouska Hempel, recently attempted to rename a London square after herself. Some chefs dress up in peculiar clothes, take part in quiz-zes and competitions; others set up as thinkers, and de-

who has a new book, Italian Kitchen, to sell this Christ-mas, the public has not begun to tire. For the mass market, there are now 30 regular vision, supplemented by repeats on a dedicated cable channel. Those who can afford to eat, as well as spectate, struggle for space in designer barns where - supposing the telephone is answered, and the customer approved they may, for a couple of gru-elling hours, be permitted to spend around £80 sitting in a remote corner, then shooed away so that the restaurateur

away so that the restauraneur can double his profits. Last year Delia Smith sold over a million copies of Delia Smith's Christmas; this year Smith's Christmas; this year the BBC expects sales of her various titles to make over £10 million. Their appeal, even after last Christmas's great heaps of discounted, even giveaway, Delias, seems undiminished. They are piled prominently in Waterstones, sharing the same, groaning table as the River Café Cookbook, Nico by Nico Ladenis, Open Rhodes Around Britain, and Joan Smith's hopeful food witholess. food anthology, Hungry For

some of the competition, De-lia has earned her weeks in her hardback and paperback TV series", are equally spuri-bestseller lists (currently ous — how many more

nounce "unnatural" geneti-cally engineered food. But happily for Alastair Little, who has a new book, Italian Kitchen, to sell this Christ-Sandwiches and Turkey Burgers. Contrast with Clare Latimer's risible Comfort Food: cauliflower cheese, baked apples, hot chocolate. And surely, even the most guilible will realise there is something suspect about a shiny box called Allegro al Dente, which contains "15 classic opera arias on CD and 75 classic and modern recipes

> in a beautifully bound book...It's about love, death, linguine, passion, wine, betrayal, proscuitto, sex, disguise, parmigiano, war, treachery, and tagliatelle". It's for people who still haven't twigged that the same temors-while-you-cook effect can be achieved, at minimum can be achieved, at minimum cost, by switching on Radio

in a beautifully bound

Three.

But then, how many of Allegro al Dente's competitors' works are answering a genuine absence or need? Even Anton Mosimann, who once tempted readers with idiosyncratic fantasies in gold leaf, is now reduced to Mosimann's World — featur-ing the kind of dishes Mother used to think of making, but, on second thoughts, decided against: paella, moussaka, osso bucco and wiener schnitzel. Most of the spin-offs, stamped "accompanies the TV series", are equally spuri-

recipes do we need for treacle tart, or meat loaf, or even for Italian sausage in red wine? But the books sell. Given the right television vehicle, a trademark eccentricity, and some competent promotion, almost anyone can now become a celebrated cook, and after that, a national brand. after that, a national brand.
After all, if a mere chef can
become a personality, why
shouldn't a mere personality become a chef?

Not long ago, Jennifer Pat-erson, one of the Two Fat Ladies, restricted her media appearances to cooking lunch for the Spectator and answering questions on Radio Four's food quiz. Now, as she recounts in the Spectator diary, she basks in glory, scurrying from book-signings to interviews, from broad-casts to prize-giving at the British Comedy Awards. A few weeks ago she received an accolade after which it remains only to die: an invitation to appear on Have I Got

How many more recipes do we need for treacle tart, or meat loaf. or even Italian sausage in wine?

book costs £17.99 and stands at number five. at number five.

This is, of course, splendid news for Jennifer and Clarissa, a terrific boost for lovers of 50s slang, and it offers hope to all those other stout, pensionable ladies who know a thing or two about jugged hare. But it has little to do with food Nor has Antonio with food. Nor has Antonio Carluccio's Italian Feast (number four in the lists), the book of this new television

personality's eager slurpings.

By now, if the massive sales of the BBC cooks were making any significant impact, it would be reflected in surveys on British eating habits. But up ready-made meals, and

المدر المدر الما المساهدة التي المستحدد المستحدد الم<u>ستحدد المستحدد المستحدد المستحدد المستحدد الم</u>در المستحدد الم

putting the kettle on. Even the swankier, costlier cookbooks, illustrated with brooding master-chefs and their handiwork, are unlikely to have much educative efis entirely different from cooking at home. As Alastair Little once said: "They're great coffee-table books for housewives, they've got Marco's book sitting there — but who's going to sit and make his stock for six hours?" Well, a few enthusiasts might try. Last week, Penelope Evans, an experienced amateur, described her courageous at-tempt to cook from books by two Michelin-starred chefs,

Nico Ladenis and Gordon Ramsey. Responding to her report that the Nico recipe was intensely laborious, while Ramsey's proved an embarrassing failure, both chefs were dismissive. "If you love food, you are prepared to put the time in . . If you can't make it, that is your problem," Nico replied. Ramsey thought Evans must be in-competent, "You must have a feel for pasta-making," he said of his lobster ravioli reci-

pe, adding that "it may take 10 or 15 attempts before you get it right".

The point is, you'd be a fool to try. These books are not for refining existing skills, they're instead of them. The less we know, the more we hope the books themselves will somehow up and do the business for us. Many of us are still waiting.

So far, none of mine has even boiled an egg.

# **Conquer the** the average woman, according to a survey in last month's Bella magazine, spends an hour a day in the kitchen (less if single), which is mostly devoted to warming



David McKie

HE TURMOIL over Europe convulsing the Conservative Party has publication in Monday's Times of a half-page adver-tisement demanding a com-mitted, positive approach to British membership of the European Union. The signatories, rather woundingly, are divided into two groups. Ninety-four of them, from Sir Lawrence Airey to Stephen Woodard, get a big fat type-face and a centre-page slot. The other 600, from John Auckland Abbey, whom I take to be a man not a building. to Vilis Zarins, are humiliatingly relegated to tiny, pinched type, and buddle on the edoes

dle on the edges. Far be it from me to deter anyone with a big enough purse from advertising in the broadsheets. Yet I can't quite see what these demonst-rations are meant to achieve. I suppose there may have been someone, somewhere, who rose from the breakfast table on Monday with a cry of "That settles it! Hugh Dykes has come out for the EMU! I must follow where'er he leads!" There may be even some long-time waverers for whom the signatures of DM Leath-Butler, E David le Cren and Betty and Michael Lee have finally tilted the balance. I certainly paused and thought over Brian W Aldiss and Richard Hoggart — the Brian W Aldiss, I think we can safely assume, the one who wrote the novels, and not some other Brian W Aldiss Aylesbury Tesco. These are people whom I admire. Others may be equally swayed by the names of Marcelle d'Argy

suspect, for long.

Despite the devotion of those who gather each Satur-day in Wimbledon Broadway with petitions to ban the bomb or save a fire engine, I rather doubt — and here, may I say, I have the support of EH | Westminster. Etherington, Valerie Joun-cey, the Hon Mrs Tom Penton-Fenton JP and the Reverend Wilbert Small — if people are very much moved any signatures. It's a proud tradition, certainly — the raison

H Bigot, R Compton Bratt, Fiona Headstrong, Judge En-gelbert Tappett, the † Bishop of Towcester and Walter Whackpond wish to join me in pointing out - these tactics can even be counter-pro-ductive. Fifty-one local Con-servatives circulated a letter calling for Sir George Gard-iner, the knight of gloomy countenance who backed John Redwood as leader de-point his constitutions with spite his constituency party's advice, to be dropped as the party's representative in Reiparty's representative in Reigate: but Gardiner survived. More than 130 MPs, including Patrick Mayhew, two past party chairmen (Fowler and Baker) and a former Chief Whip, Michael Jopling, signed a letter declaring that Nicholas Scott was an excelent fellow whom his local lent fellow whom his local party ought to hang on to: but

Scott got the push.
Some of us ancient cynics
— and I'm happy to say that
the political editors of the
Haltemprice Bugle, the Luton
and District Flute and the North Angus Merchandiser are eager to be associated with this assertion — felt all along that this intervention was likely to boomerang, simply creating resentment among the constituency rank and file at these chaps in their cosy Westminster club trying to muscle in on Chelsea and Kensington's action. Much the same, in my opin-

ion — strongly backed, I am glad to say, by the Hon Mrs Gladys Crevice, Professor Sacheverell Frogg and the Henley-on-Thames Free Enterprise Club — could occur with the European Movement's ad-vertisement in the Times. Some of a previously pro-EMU disposition might be mortified by the discovery that Andrew Faulds and Brian Sedgemore are on the same side as they are. There is, as someone once said (Suetonius perhaps? Prob-ably not) no accounting for

YET even worse than hostility is flint-faced indifference. Few parliamentary sights are sadder than those on a Friday mornnames of Marcelle d'Argy ing when petitions are pre-Smith or Parish Councillor, B Maelor Williams. But not, I suspect, for long. scrapping of plans for a by-pass: causes which tear at the hearts of signatories but,

Some may find this analy sis too negative. I would call it realistic. And in that I am not alone. Indeed, I would place an advertisement in the endorsement of my conten-tion by, among others, Oliver ition, certainly — the raison d'are of the Chartists, even if some signed the Charter several times over, and adherents were found on official scrutiny to include Victoria Rex. But even then, it has to be said, the establishment of the day reacted with bleak indifference. And — as John tion by, among others, Oliver Cromwell, Cardinal Woisey, Vera Brittain, Benjamin Britten, Sir Henry Wood, AER Gilligan, the 14th Marquis of Rockingham, Candice Bergen and Eva Herzegovina, were it not that I seem to have lost the sheet of A4 on which they subscribed their names.

# 不不不不 ILLUSTRATION: DANIEL PUBLES

# Conspiracy of silence

Politicians shouldn't kid themselves: they don't control the economy. For all their summits and monetary treaties, arques **Jonathan Eyal**, power lies with the multi-nationals and the media

pore with smug satisfaction. The WTO now em-braces more than 120 countries, all ostensibly committed to free trade. True, China and Russia are still not members, and some sectors, such as financial services and such as intanchal services and agriculture, remain highly regulated. But all member states are pledged to eliminate such snags, and trade across frontiers is now rising at four times the rate of court times the rate of court in moral decrease domesgrowth in world gross domes-

Having been the cliche of academic conferences for decades, the age of the global economy is now a reality, and a very forceful one: foreign direct investment amounted to a staggering \$315 billion in 1995, and continues to rise fast. Yet whatever was on the agenda at the WTO summit one issue was studiously avoided; the problem of democratic control and accountability in such an interdepen-dent international economy. The old institutions of the nation-state are decaying, yet international organisations are hardly able to fill the void. And, to make matters worse, leaders in every Western state pretend that the problem does not exist ... do.

problem does not exist — de-spite the evidence of a widespread, if unfocused, anxiety among all democracies.

The supposed end of the era

HE first summit of dispute is only about who is the World Trade organisation ended this week in Singa-offering Thatcherism without Thatcher, their Labour counterparts are espousing con-servatism without the

Conservatives. In the rest of Europe, the game is the same while Germany's Chancellor Kohl or France's President Chirac are demanding sacrifices today in return for a promise of a glorious monetary union around the corner, their political opponents are merely of-fering the same monetary union with none of the pain.

a job because someone in China or Korea can produce the same goods cheaper; eco-nomic theories about "com-parative advantages" may be fine for erudite academics, but they are useless as a polit-

ical platform.

Politicians are in the business of purveying good news, and a conspiracy of silence is now sustained by both governments and oppositions. Everyone promises to pre-serve and even expand existing welfare entitlements, and every politician still pays lip service to the idea of a seemingly inexorable economic growth, which somehow will

Western leaders continue to an entire continent. And, as derive their legitimacy from with every copy of a photo-national elections but, in copy, the text will become The electorate should be forgiven for disbelieving all of them, since it remains aware of only one tiny snag. although apparently God-given,

hardly a recipe for social sta-bility. And, while everyone most issues. Far from answer-extols the virtues of free trade, few are prepared to accept that this means losing the internal problems the prepared to accept that this means losing the internal problems to accept that this means losing the internal problems to accept that this means losing the internal problems to accept that this means losing the internal problems are prepared to accept that this means losing the internal problems is, how-ever, that no Western politi-cian is courageous enough to give up the pretence that such irrends can be controlled from of its member states on a grander scale.

And the start of monetary union will make matters worse. The European Central Bank will be ruled by a coun-cil composed of the governors of the continent's national banks, all unelected, and all legally independent of their governments. They, in turn, will elect an executive board. "photocopy democracy": elected leaders will appoint bank governors who, in turn, appoint their representatives who, in turn, will make the solve all contradictions.

The problem is that all real economic decisions for

The world recession is apparently over, but EU unemployment continues to rise, to 18 million citizens today

the prosperity to which they were accustomed in the past apparently over, but EU un-employment continues to rise to 18 million citizens today. Work-retraining schemes operate everywhere, yet half of Europe's unemployed have been without a job for more than a year, and job for more than a year. are therefore probably unemployable as well. The British "economic miracle", now

current economic policies | people everywhere are only somehow do not deliver too painfully aware of reali-either the predictability or ties: those who do affect their lives are usually unknown were accustomed in the past and unelected; those who os-The world recession is tensibly hold political power prove unable to exercise it.

The obvious answer to intertwined economies could be provided by international institutions, such as the EU. Yet cratic construction founded ing the size of eggs (usually without even bothering to tell the hen) would gradually draw Europeans closer. It has a directly elected Parliament

Spanish workers react when they are dismissed from work because someone whose name they cannot even pronounce has decided in Frankfurt that their country's deficit is too large for their own good? No answer is provided: Britain's parties are ready to debate everything about monetary union apart from the question of the Bank's control.

A good case can be made that free trade is an inevita-ble development: the countries which tried to resist the trend have become of ideologies has reduced which decides very little, and result. The same may apply to studies at the Roy appear pre-ordained, the state of the stat

Diplomats are repackaged as international salesmen, despite the evidence that they make little difference to economic transactions; free trade is still presented as a mechanism for opening up other markets to one's national products, rather than exposing national markets to international competiwhich will be responsible to itself. Instead of greater ac-countability, Europe will ex-ered, short-term populist perience the new concept of measures are usually the answer.
Only last week the French

government cancelled a deal which would have allowed the Daewoo Electronics company of Korea to take over Thompson Multimedia. The French state-owned company is heavily in the red and much of the pioneering tech-nology which Parls claims to protect was actually invented in the US. Nevertheless, the public opposed the deal on nothing more than racial grounds, and the government caved in. Yet the same French government may be signing this weekend in Dublin a "stability pact" for the Euro-pean Union whose chief aim s to make the continent's central bank even less accountable to Europe's politi-

cal institutions. Not one of the West's leaders is ready to admit that the corollary of free trade in goods has been a free trade in rulers of the world today are the chairmen of multi-media companies and multi-national institutions, not the humble ministers who spent what was, by all accounts, an agreeable time at the WTO gathering in Singapore.

Dr Jonathan Eval is director of studies at the Royal United

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# A French vote for Europe

was a French polit-ical figure who, dein the Senate, appears more Fourth Republic than Fifth Republic. He was educated at the Lycée Louis-le Grand, had a law degree and a qualifica-tion as a civil mining engi-neer, and before the second world war worked in the fi-

nance ministry.

During the war he joined the "liberation word" resistance network and afterwards entered politics through the indirectly elected Senate. He was a Christian Democrat, the mayor of Ablou-sur-Seine, val d'Oise, from 1945-77, a nominated European deputy and president of the European Assembly 1966-69, headed the Senate Christian Democrat group and was president (speaker) of the Senate from 1968 to 1992. In Europe be was a general

commissioner for German and Austrian affairs, he was France's representative on the Rubr Authority (1950-52) and, supported by Robert Schuman, chair of the plan-ning commission between 1955 and 1957 leading up to the Common Market. He was a participant in the early delopment of European insti-

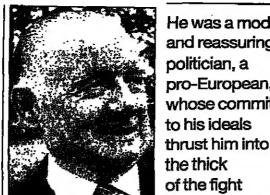
LAIN Poher, who (with a gap during 1957-8 has died aged 87, when he was secretary of was a French political state for the armed forces). Poher was a supporter of a di-rectly elected European parliament with greater powers and a more thorough integra-tion over a number of fields in the 1950s.

His closeness to Schuman he headed his private office in 1946 — and to Henri Queuille nance, as well as his commit-ment to the European ideal (dissenting from de Gaulle's European policy in the Chris-tian Democrat Congress as early as 1950) made him almost the quintessence of the politics de Gaulle opposed. The general disparagingly compared Poher with the con-

servative Antoine Pinay, dis-

missing him as a "Pinay with-out the hat... or the head". However, although he held a few minor government posts in the Fourth Republic, he made a substantial if indirect contribution to Fifth Republic politics through his determined centrist opposition to Gaullism; in fact he had the best of the repartee playing a leading role in the campaign to defeat de Gaulle's 1969

Poher was more of a back-stage politician than a front line campaigner but, having just been elected president of



the Senate (ironically one expectation was that he would repair relations with the Elyée) circumstances thrust him into the limelight in 1969. The general, to whom the Senate had become a substantial irri-tant, held a referendum on Senate and regional reform in April 1969.

Having been elected presi-dent of the Senate in 1968, it fell to Poher to defend the institution from de Gaulle's at-tempts to downgrade it. The French electorate were treated to a vigorous and effective campaign from a hitherto unknown politican and when de Gaulle was defeated and resigned, in not the least of ironles, Poher (as Senate

begun the process of disband-ment and rebirth) and many He was a modest wanted to see the presidency returned to its disinterested role as regulator of the politiand reassuring cal game and away from its politician, a "imperial" pretentions
(Poher undoubtedly benefitted from an element of stopMitterrand). pro-European, whose commitment Poher, however, needed very wide support in order to defeat the Gaullist candidate to his ideals

vagueness and contradictory pulls (such as the need to disof the fight solve the Assembly) dissi-pated the initial enthusiasm leader) automatically became acting President from April 28 to June 19. He sacked some of — although it probably would have needed more time than was available and a more sinin the Elysée declared his in-tention to be a "President of uous politics than anybody could have achieved. He was opposed by the Communists, who ran their own candidate, and by many others on the left to whom a Christian Demreconciliation and unity" and saw his popularity soar. The Gaullist government, which remained in office, reacted by cutting him out of meetings which would normally have ocrat conservative was

However Poher made a been chaired by the President. creditable showing to take 23.4 per cent on the first bal-lot; but although he was the top opposition candidate his Among the French public, apparently impressed by the new style of presidentialism, a momentum for a presidenvote was insufficient and he tial bid had built up: Poher polled only 42.4 per cent on the second ballot, at which launched on a campaign backed by centrists and some socialists. The Socialist Party the Communists called for ab was in disarray (having stention. Poher declared that

there would be no Poherist movement and expressed his desire to work amicably with the new President, and Pom-pidou did begin to draw the centrists back into the regime. Pompidou's death in 1974

again made him acting President, from April 2 to May 27 (hence his autiobiography Trois fois Président published in 1993) but he declined to run George Pompidou, and this, for President again and confatally, he failed to get with his centrist platform. His campaigning style, marked by did not make him a natural did not make him a natural did not make him a natural ally of the socialists and his relations with President Mit-terrand were stormy, particularly over Senate reform.

Poher was devoted to the Senate but probably over-stayed his term at the presidency of it — partially bewho could succeed — and at the and of his term the Senate was not as well run as it could have been. He was a modest and reassuring politician whose commitment to his ideals thrust him into the thick of the fight. His career is a silent sermon on the role of contingency in politics.

David Bell

Alain Emile Louis Marie Poher politician, born April 17, 1909 died December 9, 1996

# Genuine love for others

Appreciation: Raphael Samuel

and have a talk and a cup of APHAEL Samuel (Obituary, December 10) opened my mind when I was a student in the 1960s. Until I went to Ruskin and met him, my education had come from correspondence courses, which I used to complete in a 14-bunk cabin after 20 hours' duty as a seaman on a liner. To move from that to two of you in a college room with a tutor was an experience, but Raph was never my image of a tutor.

He would turn up with his hair all over the place, in a style of dressing that was all his own and that was brilliantly captured in the photograph of him which the Guardian published yesterday. He arrived with bags full of poems and bits of paper cabin after 20 hours' duty as a

of poems and bits of paper and references and he would pull one out when he wanted to make a point. He made me do something I thought I'd never do. Not just write an essay — that was dif-ficult enough for me — but use the experience of poetry to illustrate a point. Until then I had thought poetry was

about them and not us. He had this tremendous understanding of the inner inferiority that mature students have in a society that tells them they've missed out. He not only understood what was inside the student, he un-locked it and channelled it into written and verbal de-bate. There wasn't an ounce of superiority in him. In those tutorials he was often as much the student as the lecturer. He learned from you and you learned from him. He was fascinated by other

peoples' experiences. I remember once that I did a mock exam while I was at Ruskin. I had a terrible time. I was so frustrated that I couldn't say what I wanted that I stormed out. Raph chased after me down Walton Street, but he couldn't catch me. When I got back there was a note on my desk in that big handwriting of his telling me not to worry and to come

coffee. He was always sup-portive like that. For me, Raph was the Ruskin experience. He arrived during my time there. I think during my time there. I think he only intended to be there for one or two years, but he stayed for the rest of his life. Ruskin was phenomenal. It wasn't Oxford, but it was in Oxford. For people like me it was hard. Having been big the in small people was were sperty resta

Mian

was hard. Having been one fish in small pools we were suddenly turned into small fish in big ones. Ruskin's founders said they wanted "to take the windbags out of the trade union movement and the trade with sand so they fill them with sand so they are sandbags for stability not windbags for the revolution". Raph never saw it that way. He made revolution sound warm and not painful. He spoke for the heart and the soul of the labour movement. real people, real workers.

E NEVER forgot you. When I was standing for the deputy leader ship of the party in 1992 after Roy Hattersley resigned, I came under a lot of attack from people who said I could never hold the job be-cause I might stumble over my words and say the wrong things. Completely out of the blue, Raph wrote this wonderful piece for the Guardian about me, recalling some very strong memories of those Rusfor me. It moved me to tears. He knew what was in the heart and he knew what was in the head. He wasn't taken in by an establishment that just judges by the mouth and the glamour. I felt really proud that he felt that way about me and that he was still

there after 30 years.
I was devastated to hear of his death. He had such a genuine love for people. He had the loveliest warm smile, a warm knowing smile. It was truly comradely. Everything was lovely about that man.

### Hugh L'Etang

# Checking out the leaders

Lead? and Ailing Leaders in Power, Dr Hugh L'Etang, who has died of cancer aged 79, was the first writer to chronicle the mental and physical frailties of world Churcbill and President Kennedy.

ternational affairs but, en-couraged by his general practitloner father, the son followed in his footsteps. But like his boyhood favourite Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Hugh



L'Etang . . . GP and writer

was destined to make his name as a writer rather than doctor. And fittingly he was a lifelong Sherlock Holmes Society member. Educated at Haileybury he

read medicine at St John's College, Oxford, and London's St Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College, graduating in 1942. As a member of the Royal Army Medical Corps he took part in the Normandy ining, and was twice mentioned in despatches.

At the end of the war he went into general practice with his father in Bethnal Green. Then in 1947 he attended two lectures that altered the course of his life. At November 23, 1917; died November 24, 1917; died November 24, 1917; died November 25, 191

TITH THE trilogy revelations on Woodrow Wil-The Pathology Of son awakened his curiosity in Leadership, Fit to Lead? and Alling who lead to Alling the lead to Alling who lead us. At the second he met research epidemiologist Dr Cecily Tinker, who he married in 1951.

During the next 20 years he worked mainly as an occupa-tional physician. In 1954 he studied occupational medi-cine at Harvard and made many lifelong friends, including White House physician Dr Larry Moir. Then, in 1969, Hugh became assistant editor of the GPs' journal, the Practi-tioner. And that year his ac-claimed first book, The Pathology of Leadership was

The last time I lunched with him, a few months ago, he reflected he had been past 50 when he realised his vocation. He made up for lost time. He was a talented all-round journalist, and in 1973 he became a principled and popular editor of the Practitioner. I was a young sub-editor then and he was a kind, amusing and inspiring mentor.

published. After his 1982 retirement he edited Travel final book Ailing Leaders in Power (1914-94).
Hugh continued to write

incisive until the end, I never once heard him complain about his illness. His wife Ce-cily, to whom he was devoted, died suddenly in April and Hugh never recovered from this blow. He leaves behind a cherished son and daughter and a wide, eclectic circle of friends whose lives were en-riched by his kindness and

**Corinne Short** 

Hugh Joseph Charles Jame



#### **May Moxon**

# A long line of chorus lines

Medicine International, was consultant editor to the Physician and free-lanced. In 1995 although suffering from prostate cancer, he published his of Scottish variety theatre.

AY MOXON, who from an uncle, Harold noted that May Moxon but she maintained a close never made much money. Interest in the business, was synonymous with the heyday career as a dancer but had between £2 and £3 for danctate cancer, he published his of Scottish variety theatre. The dancers were each paid between £2 and £3 for danctate cancer, he published his of Scottish variety theatre. For balf a century her dance troupes were an essential feature of just and lecture at home and in about every production on the United States. Bright and the flourishing Scottish

> No summer show was complete without the May Moxon Young Ladies, or some variation upon that name. Colloquially, they were more often referred to in the business as "Moxon's Oxen," though this did justice neither to their glamour nor finesse.

May Moxon was born into a Glasgow show business family and was originally one of a family act, the Four MacLeans. Her real name was Euphemia MacDonald but she soon borrowed her stage name

severe leg injuries in a car accident at the age of 27. Doctors wanted to amputate her leg but she successfully resisted and, for most purposes other than danc-ing, made a recovery which kept her mobile throughout

In the 1930s she turned to teaching and hiring out chorus line-ups. Soon there were up to 150 Moxon Maids gracing the numerous variety stages which of-fered work in this golden age of the Scottish seaside show. Her girls also worked in resorts like Blackpool and the Isle of Man which were popular with Scottish

ing twice-nightly, six nights a week; when Equity took a stand in order to in-crease the rate to £4 a week the skinflint owners resisted bitterly and predicted financial disaster. Mozon and an assistant

toiled late into the night to make the glittering cos-tumes worn by the girls, for whom it was a life of relative glamour compared to alternative occupations of the era. Recruitment was largely through dancing schools. A few made it to Paris or Las Vegas but most remained Moxon girls throughout their brief

holidaymakers.
In his funeral oration the comedian Jimmy Logan sion. May Moxon retired, 26, 1896

guest at those Scottish

theatres which remained thereafter. Scottish show business historian Gordon Irving said: "She was a busy, ever smiling lady; a personality with a boundless recall of the heyday of Scottish variety and seaside shows. She was knowledgeable to the end about the light entertainment world of which she was so much a part for most of this century." May Moxon is survived by her son, Tom.

Brian Wilson

Euphemia MacDonald (May Moxon), dance producer, born October 9, 1905; died November

Letter: **Don Keynon** onship in 1964. The New Road ground was very informal in those days; schoolboys could watch the game without troubling the gatekeepers, by leaning over the wall on the river Severn side of the ground. We went through the turnstiles on August 25, however, to see the county com-plete an innings victory over neighbours Gloucestershire Afterwards a large crowd gathered in front of the pavil-ion to await the result of the match at Southampton be-tween Hampshire and the other championship contend-ers, Warwickshire, Soon after the cathedral clock had

#### Birthdays

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Sylvester Clarke, cricketer, 41; Ronald Dworkin, Professor or Jurisprudence, Oxford University, 65; Sir Robert Fellowes, private secretary to the Queen, 55; Dr Betty Kershaw, president, Royal College of Nursing, 53; Brenda Lee, singer, 52; Cliff Michelmore, broadcaster, 77; Rita Moreno, singer, actress, 55; Steve Nicol, footballer, 35; Karin Pappenheim, director, National Council for One-Plowright, television pioneer, 66; Raymond Robertson, MP, Scottish education minister 32. Alexanders cation minister, 37; Alexander Solzhenitsyn, writer, human rights campaigner, 78:

David Hoult writes: Many fol- | struck five, the news came lowers of Worcestershire through: Warwickshire had cricket will remember Don Kenyon (oblitary November 14) above all for leading the county to their first champihome that evening, we stopped off at the Red Hart at Flyford Flavell, in the hope of catching our heroes in celebration. On that accasion we were disappointed, but the Flowers bitter had never tasted better.

#### Death Notices

GREFFRI. On 8th December Ellon Josephine (Nell) ride Reidy, Doar wite for 5-years of Dr Cornellus J. (Cont Griffin. A greatly loved and loving wide, mother, prantinother and great grandmother. Her body will be received into St Anne's Church, Crescent Road, Crumpaali, Manchester, at 8pm, on Thureday 12th December and Requirem Masse will take place in St Anne's at 8,30em, on Friday (3th December, followed by Cremation at Stackley Cremation an. As a lazer date her sense will be interned at Syrie Eleison Abbey, Abbeydonney, County Kenry. Rather than Slowers a donation to Francis House Children's Hopping. MANDELSTAM Devolby died at home o December 8th 1986. A remerkable womer memorial service to be announced later premission private.

**ICCI fra** 

VANCERT, Nosi Devid George, aged 56 years "Vincent" to his Irlands. On December 4th 1986 at 91 Barnabas Hospics, Worthing, Gremation at Worthing Grematicitan, Findon on December 18th at 1,20p.m. No flowers but donations for \$2 Barnabas Hospics, who cared for him so well, will be received by Jordan & Gook Underbakars, \$2 Arm Street, Worthing, Tal, 01903 232 702.

#### Acknowledgments

#### Jackdaw



#### **HoHoHo factor**

THERE are 2 billion children in the world. But since Santa doesn't handle the Muslim. Hindu, Jewish and Buddhist workload to 15 per cent or 378 million. At an average rate of 3.5 children per household, that's 91.8 million homes.

Santa has 31 hours of Christmas to work with, thanks to the different time zones and the rotation of the earth, assuming he travels east to west (which seems logical). This works out to 822.6 visits per second: for each Christian household with good children, Santa has 1/1000th of a second to park,

hop out of the sleigh, jump down the chimney, fill the stockings, distribute the remaining presents under the tree, eat whatever snacks have been left and move on. Assuming for the purposes of calculation that each of these 91.8 million stops are evenly distributed around the earth, we are talking about 78 miles per household, a total trip of 75.5 million miles. This means that Santa's sleigh is moving at 650 miles per second, 3,000 times the speed of sound. The fastest man-made vehicle on earth, the Ulysses space probe, moves at 27.4 miles per second - a conventional rein-

Assuming that each child gets nothing more than a medium-sized Lego set (2 pounds), the sleigh is carrying 321,300 tons, not counting Santa, invariably described as overweight. On land, conventional reindeer can pull no more than 300 pounds. Even deer" could pull 10 times the normal amount, we cannot do the job with eight, or even nine; we need 214,200. This in-

deer can run, tops, 15 miles

per hour.

creases the payload to 353,430 tons — four times the weight of the Queen Elizabeth: 353,000 tons travelling at 650 miles per second creates enor-mous air resistance — this will heat the reindeer up like spacecraft re-entering the earth's atmosphere. The lead pair of reindeer will absorb 14.3 quintillion joules of energy. Per second. Each. They will burst into flame almost instantaneously, and create deafening sonic booms in their wake. The entire team will be vaporised within 4.26 thousandths of a second. Santa will be subjected to centrifugal forces 17,500.06 times greater than gravity. A 250-pound Santa (ludicrously slim) would be pinned to the back of his sleigh by 4,315,015

Santa, the final frontier colculations by Tarig Monotour of Columbia University's Civil Engineering Dept. courtesy sudanese@msu.edu.

pounds of force.

Big girls blowsy APHRODITE by our standards is fat. If you take another look at the Venus de

Milo, you have to be impressed by her girth. She's a chunk — immense round hips, great tits, this is a big girl! Her beauty lies in the proportions of her body, not in its slenderness. She's not chic like Nefertiti, she doesn't immediately a rouse you with immediately arouse you with some mysterious electric spark — like what flies from the corner of Claudia's mouth, or from the jut of a bony hip, or from the racy elongated curves of these strange and exciting poses. Venus is both vigorous and fat, with no skinny chest, but a vast expanse of neck and shoulders and breast. Richard Klein's Eat Fat, quoted in Marie-Claire.

#### Clash reunion JIMMMY hit his growth-

spurt early and he was mean. He was a foot taller than I was and had wiry, junior-grade prison muscles. Jimmy could do some damage. And because he could, he did not have to. Instead he toyed with me, swatted at me, took me into the woods and tore my Boy Scout medals off at knife-

point. The worst thing wasn't the beating. The worst thing was waiting for it.
Jimmy would hang out by
his house and when I'd pass
nearby he'd strike. "Hey," he'd say, "you're on my prop-erty." Then he'd come out and

face me down . I'd try not to do anything too grovelling — I had some pride — but I'd also try not to give him an excuse to really beat me. Jimmy made the torment last. He'd lean in and shout at me, and I'd try to apologise as little as possible. Eventually a group would gather around and wait for me to get pounded. One day it came to a head. I

was walking home with my six-year-old brother when I saw a crowd at the end of my street. When they saw me they began to make that there's go-ing-to-be a-fight sound which every kid who has ever gotten stomped remembers distinctly. Jimmy appeared. "You called me a pussy," he said, pushing me back. My brother looked at me hopefully, as if to say: Co ahead, kick his ass so that I can be proud of you.
"No, I didn't, Jimmy," I
gulped, thinking This time he's

gone too far. I'll show him. I pulled back my fist, thinking about every story my mom ever told me where a good, peaceful man gets shoved around long enough and then everything was kind of blurry and I was covered in my own blood. I had tree bark in my mouth because Jimmy had been slamming my face into a tree. My brother leaped on his head like a midget wrestler, hitting him



Details . . . bully beefing

until I pulled him off. "Just let him finish up," I told my brother. "It'll be easier." Paul Bibeau at 25 recalls in Details the bully who terror The right kit

Sarah Spencer, civil liber-tarian, 44.

#### FORGET about safari

jackets, Martin Bell wears one of course, but he has paid enough dues to get away with anything. In most trouble spots, the trick is not to look like a journalist at all. Riot police and marauding militiamen are the last great snobs. They'll hold off clubbing you that little bit longer if you look like you're important enough to cause them trouble. Thus, Armani suits are safer than sweat stained drills. If you're a woman the defenceless look can help. Liz Blunt, who was awarded an MBE for her bravery while reporting in Liberia, has what she calls her nun's dress. It's a girlie number in navy gingham, with a tape recorder hidden in a sweet little straw bag. You know you've won, she says, when the rebels address you as

"sister"...But in their deepest techno fantasies what cor-respondents really want is for everything to be lighter. They want palmtops to become rugged enough to replace laptops. They want to head into the blue with kit head into the blue with kit like the HP Omnigo 7000LX or the Psion 3A, linked by infrared signal to a mobile phone the size of a pen and running on an internal bat-tery with infinite life. The manufacturers know it and it's all coming. In fact it won't be too long before all the gear will fit into the pockets of a safari jacket. Or even an Ar-

Norman Hartley swanking in GQ. Funny: we thought the real essentials were a 32p notebook bought in a W H Smith branch at Heathrow, a biro nicked from some dire hotel en route and a dozen Kit Kats (or Mars bars for boys).

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Was Trace

# Finance Guardian

# Alliance members say yes

# Building society attended by almost 500 members, most of whom were long-term savers disgrunded wins backing to convert to bank

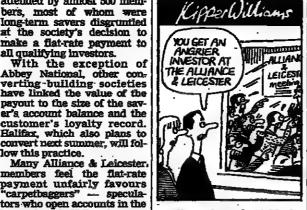
LLIANCE & Leicester members gave their overwhelmbuilding society's conversion plans yesterday, ensuring they will each receive free shares worth about £1,000 next year.

Some 70 per cent of the building society's savers took part in the poll, with 96 per cent voting in favour of its special meeting in London, lowed a sometimes heated cent voting in favour of its special meeting in London, lowed a sometime in London, lowed a sometime in London, lowed a sometime in London, lower for many at the lowed a sometime in London, lower for many at the lower for many at the pensioner from Banstead, lower for many at the lower for ma

conversion to a bank. Of the borrowers who voted, 97 per cent said yes to the proposals. Yesterday's mandate allows Alliance & Leicester to proceed with its listing on the stock market, scheduled for between April and June, depending on the timing of the general election. On flotation, 250 free shares will be distrib-

at the society's decision to make a flat-rate payment to all qualifying investors. With the exception of Abbey National, other converting-building societies have linked the value of the payout to the size of the savere and the

customer's loyalty record. Halifax, which also plans to convert next summer, will follow this practice. Many Alliance & Leicester. members feel the flat-rate payment unfairly favours "carpetbaggers" - speculators who open accounts in the hope of a windfall — because they will receive the same number of shares as savers



protest at the level payout.

said Mr Mountain.

neeting when she told the board that her loyalty and trust had been ill-served by the society's policy of paying about £1,000 to each and every

Surrey, said: "I feel neglected fire for its refusal to hand out for my trust in the Allianca. It is the long-term investor who has enabled the society to grow to this size." She is now considering withdrawing the hulk of her \$50 000 earlings in the low make multiple allows. ance & Leicester could, under the law, make multiple allocabulk of her £50,000 savings in

Patrick Mountain, head of the Alliance & Leicester in-Mr White, however, dismissed the suggestion, saying Alliance & Leicester was bound by the terms of the Building Societies Act, which cinculated that shares could vestors' action group, said he had received 1,500 letters from disenchanted long-term investors. Many correspon-dents accused the board of be distributed only to the first named. "It was impossible to devise a share scheme that 'moral corruption or worse", Group chief executive, Peter White, rejected the crit-icism, saying that a flat-rate would please everybody," he

payout was the best way to reflect the "mutual principle" The only remaining obstacle to flotation is new building societies legislation to be published later this month. This will remove con-verting societies' five year "Around 70 per cent of our members have less than £2,000 in their accounts and protection from predators if

# Where loyalty gets punished



Edited by Alex Brummer

hope that building society members soon will rise up in revolt against the loss of mutuality and vote against the cash and share bribes on offer. Nevertheless, dissenting voices drowned out elsewhere in the the rush to col-lect the cash have properly been heard in the case of the Alliance & Leicester.

The society's path from mutuality to a conversion scheduled for between April and June next year has been bungled almost from the start. As recently as a year ago, the Alliance & Lelcester was among those societies defending the idea of mutuality, to the point that it was willing to sponsor papers and seminars spelling out the virtues.
The moment it realised that
the larger part of its sector
was heading for the exit and plc status, the society joined the rush: even though there is still no convincing case that flotation will allow it to expand into areas from which it is currently excluded. In fact, the Alliance & Leicester al-reedy had substantial bank-ing operations, through Giro.

which gave it a flexibility unavailable to others. As for the specifics of the conversion, the flat earth approach, which applies to everyone except directors and senior executives, may look fair but has been highly dam-aging. In particular, those members with larger deposits who remained loyal have, in effect, been punished for not to other mutuals, offshore or elsewhere for a higher return. Other societies, including the far larger and more com-plicated Halifax, have man-

aged to relate deposits to the cash/share allocation. Mutuals may mean one perance & Leicester is abandoning that principle anyway, it ought to recognise that the depositor with £50,000 has con-tributed more to the society and deserves a better return than one with £1,000 or less.

Moreover, the society has manoeuvred itself into an untenable position on disabled members by its insistence that only the first-named holder of an account (usually a carer) can receive the payout, thus excluding per-haps that same carer from another payout on their own account. Other societies, including the Halifax have managed to deal with this problem, which seems to have been beyond the competence of the A&L management. The case for a legal challenge on

equal treatment of all. As the Guardian reported last month, top executives stand to benefit from substantial share options within 42 days of the flotation, with chief executive Peter White entitled to options worth £500,000. No doubt he deserves it, as he steers a £2.5 billion financial grouping away from the pro-tections offered by the Building Societies Act towards the open season of the stock

But it is not quite open season. The Alliance & Leicester is fighting hard to retain the it from a hostile takeover. If Mr White really wants the society to join the grown-ups, with all the financial accoutrements which come with being masters of a pic, then it must also accept the disci-pline of the marketplace. This means no special protection from the likes of BAT, the Prudential and others seeking to position themselves more strongly in financial services.

#### Northern buddy

ORTHERN Electric is getting outte good at blowing the gaff. It has done it twice and perhaps it will be for that that it goes down in history — certainly it has little else to recommend it

to posterity. When the utility was fight-ing off the first bid in the electricity industry it built its de-Trafalgar House by offering shareholders £560 million of gease was so gigantic that it forced the normally sedate electricity watchdog, Stephen Littlechild, into action. At no self, he ripped up a newlycompleted set of price controls for the industry and set about imposing tougher ones. If Northern could afford sweeteners on this scale, the had swimming pools of cash which had been hidden from

Northern escaped Trafal-gar's clutches but has had the Americans, in the form of CE Energy, snapping at its heals. And yes, chairman David Morris and his team of Northern directors have done it again. The board has ac-knowledged that it could afford to pay Labour's planned windfall tax out of the compa ny's own resources.

Let it sink in. Most utilities which care to comment on the windfall tax have been peddling tales of catastrophe and woe, threat-ening legal action, and even, it is claimed, trying to enlist White House officials to the cause of getting the tax plan scrapped.

Now the utility with the biggest debt burden — Northally high gearing levels to defend itself from takeover has made it clear that it can still put a hand in its own pocket and stump up the cash case for a legal challenge on this issue is a strong one which should be pressed, even if it holds up the whole process.

There is of course one group at the Alliance & Leicester which will not be subject to its penchant for

#### Compass sets £3,75 as minimum wage limit

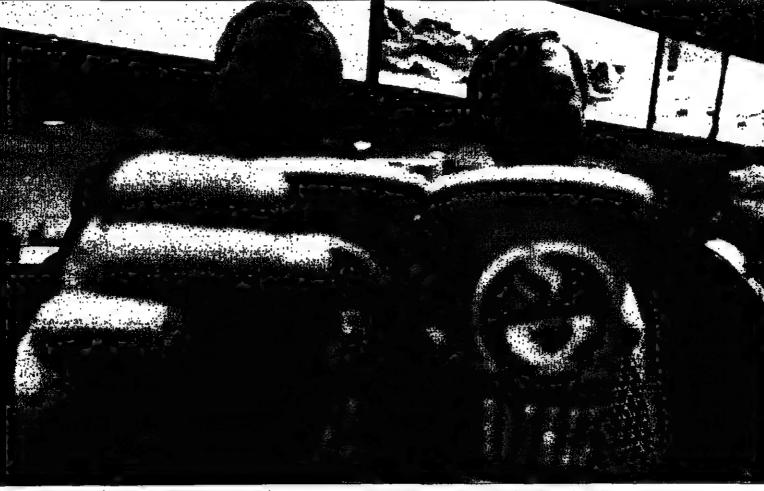
turn Kilney

COMPASS Group, the tract catering group, warned yesterday that it would be unhappy if the minimum wage promised by Labour came in at above £3.75 an hour. Compass, many of whose

are part-time, said the minimum wage would not have any impact on the

ecutive, said anything above that figure would pose problems. "At over £8.75, it would become a pricing, tariff and produc-

His comments came as Compass unveiled a 56 per cant jump in full-year pre-tax profits, to £114.3 mil-lion. The company continnes to see benefits from its clutch of branded offerings. The latest is Ritazza, a coffee bar offering flavoured beverages, including Christmas pudding-flavoured coffee. Compass shares closed up 84p, at 626p, on the figures.



Francis Mackay, left, and finance director Roger Matthews drink to rise in profits, at Ritazza coffee bar, Victoria station

Hinchliffe

argument

over Facia

liquidator

STEPHEN Hinchliffe failed yesterday to per-suade creditors of his crashed Facia retail group

to appoint the liquidator of

his choice. Instead, the accountancy

firm BDO Stoy Hayward was given the job of liqui-dating the company, which is estimated to have debts

of about £80 million. Mr Hincliffe did not at-

ioses

Dam Athineon

# BCCI fraud victims paid £1bn

Dan Atkinson

fraud in history — the \$20 billion (£12.5 billion) collapse of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International — saw the end of a five-year wait yesterday as they received the first pay-ments since the fraud-riddled bank crashed into liquidation in summer 1991. Nearly £1 billion was paid

out to 30,000 creditors around the world, including many thousands in the UK, in a the world, including many thousands in the UK, in a share-out equivalent to 24.5p in the pound — as predicted in yesterday's Guardian. A part to international crimi-

pound, is due within 16 months and a third. worth not

eventually.

But this third payout — and any subsequent compensation -- will rely upon the suc-cess of large-scale legal actions planned by liquida-tors Deloitte & Touche against, inter alia, the Bank of England and BCCI's former auditors, accountants Ernst & Young and Price Waterhouse. Each of these writs is for

second payment, worth not nals about \$1 billion of BCCI market HQ in the City — was claims against the bank and less than another 10p in the losses were never pressed shut in July 1991 as a result of put \$1.8 billion into a compenwith the liquidators, almost certainly because the crediless than 6p, is expected tors were persons of ill reputs. BCCI was linked to

money laundering.

Beneficiaries of the first disbursements included six British local authorities, one of which — the Western Isles council — notoriously, put more than £23 million on deposit with BCCI in the hope of better returns. Yesterday's move will mean 26 million for

shut in July 1991 as a result of put \$1.8 billion into a compeninternational regulatory land, Liquidators soon discor ered BCCI had no capital and contained "black holes" - including bogus accounts and missing funds — totalling

nearly \$13 billion.

Aside from the \$1 billionodd "waived" by international crime, yesterday's £820 million "distribution" was made possible by Delottte having recovered about half the \$10 billion-plus missing

sation fund. In addition to assets, a further \$400 million has been obtained through legal action, and the United States authorities have agreed to release half of the \$1 billion of BCCI assets they

There has been criticism of liquidators' costs — £121 million as of mid-January this year — but Deloitte has argued that the expected 40 per cent final payments to credi-

dro-Electric. The joint ven-ture, if agreed, would save

The cost of the merger is put

The merger is the corner-

stone of a strategy document issued by the Northern board,

as part of advice to sharehold-

ers to reject the CE Electric

If it remains independent,

Northern intends to expand its joint venture with Rolls-

Royce in the development of

gas-fired power stations. Shareholders will also receive

an upbeat assessment of the

value of the company's hold-ing in Sovereign, the North Sea gas business, and in the

telecoms company Ionica. CE Electric dismissed the

Northern defence as "not jam

#### tend the creditors' meeting in Leeds, at which it emerged there is money available to pay only about 3.75p in the pound. It is understood the for-mer Pacia chief had decided threat to evade predator on legal advice not to

Creditors, led by Se unanimously chose BDO Stoy Hayward against Mr

Hinchliffe's choice of a local firm, Geoffrey Martin & Co. Facia — which had in-

cluded high-street names such as Sock Shop, Red or Dead and Contessa - collapsed in the summer. Receivers KPMG have sold on most of the group's operations, saving the bulk of the group's jobs and allowing secured creditors to be paid in full.

Tony Thompson, of KPMG, described the appointment of BDO's insol-

vency partners Malcolm Cohen and Peter Copp, as "a very positive move". He said: "We had been urging the directors of Facia to seek the appointment of liquidators, and now the

decision has been taken the process can move forward to ensure a payment is made as soon as possible to the unsecured creditors." At the meeting, chairman Christopher Harrison ruled that creditors should not be allowed to question direc-

#### Bank union fears 800 jobs will go in new round of cuts

ANOTHER 800 jobs could be axed from the embattled banking and insurance sectors, finance union Bifu warned vesterday

The union, which estimates that 100,000 jobs have been lost from banking since 1990 and warns that a further 100,000 could go from insur-ance, identified the latest jobs at risk after separate an-nouncements by insurer Guardian and Barclays Bank

division. It said the acquisition of Legal & General's commercial insurance operation earlier this year had resulted in duplication and costs needed to be cut.

Although a spokesman said

edundancies and early retirement, compulsory redundancies could not be ruled out. Bifu attacked the proposal

dated through voluntary

scheduled for completion by next summer, as arbitrary. "These appear to be intended to please analysts and the stock market. It's just change for change's sake — it will not help customer service," said a spokesman.

The union was also in-censed by news that US bank Morgan Stanley is acquiring Guardian said it was axeing the global securities business of Barclays. No price was disin its UK general insurance closed for the deal, although City sources estimated its value at around £50 million. It will involve the transfer of some \$250 billion in assets administered by Barclays. Bifu said Morgan Stanley

had guaranteed jobs for only the company was hoping the 67 of Barclays' staff, putting job losses would be accommo-around 460 in leopardy. around 460 in jeopardy.

TOURIST RATES - BANK SELLS nark 9.6175 Iraland 0.9675 Denmark 9.61 Finland 7.63

Hong Kong 12.49 India 50,12

haly 2,488 Singspore 22856 Maits 0.5825 South Airica 7.55 Netherlands 2,81 New Zealand 2,2750 Norway 10.47 Sweden 11.17 Switzariand 2,13 Portugal 253.75 Saudi Arabla 8.17 USA 1.6175

# Costain sells coal Northern defies Labour and land stakes

Roger Cowe

.....

No.

Today-

والمراجع المنتوط

HE fire sale of assets at the battered construction group Costain con-tinued yesterday when the company announced that it had found buyers for its US coal business and its share in the Spitaifields development in London.

Following the sales, chairman Sir Christopher Benson and chief executive Alan Lovell will stand down in the new

year. But the group warned that its troubles continued, with much greater losses than had been anticipated over the past few months.

As a result, net assets had shrunk to less than half of its share capital requiring an extraordinary general meeting

warned yesterday that the disposals are essential to disposals are essential to meet bank lending limits. They also said that bank facil-

ities should be sufficient to cover its needs, but the board has made no allowance for any liability to Eurotunnel by the Channel Tunnel consortium TML, of which Costain

was part. Remaining US coal operations will be sold to an American mining company, Ren-coal, for about £21 million, against the £50 million expecied from an abortive deal with Lourho last summer. Since then, mining operations have been hit by poor geological conditions, which will result in losses for the

year being £11 million worse than previously expected.
The group has also been hit by problems in its Middle East construction business, which has suffered losses 64 million higher than expected.

Costain's share in the Spitunder the terms of the Compunies Acts.
The egm will be held on
January 6 and the directors
Warned yesterday that the
Warned yesterday that the
Warned yesterday are essential to

# Chris Barrie

ABOUR'S plans for a windfall tax on the pri-vatised utilities were given a boost last night when Northern Electric broke ranks by promising hefty in-creases in dividends to share holders even if such a levy

In a last-ditch attempt to escape the clutches of a 2782 million hostile bid from US predator CE Electric, the Newcastle-based electricity company promised higher dividends despite a threat-ened windfall tax of as much as £81 million.

The promise, made in Northern's third formal defence document, includes a 17 per cent hike in the divi-dend to 50p a share in the year to March 1998. Dividends will then grow from 1998 to 2000 at 7 per cent a year. Northern said that it op-posed a windfall tax but

close to accepting that a tax | either United Utilities or Hywas inevitable. | dro-Electric. The joint ven-One source close to shadow chancellor Gordon Brown said that utilities are lobbying against the tax. But, in private, most accept it will be introduced. "They can evi-

Utilities are lobbying against tax. But in private most accept it will be introduced

dently afford it while maintaining strong dividend flows to shareholders." Labour indicated that Northern would know the scale of the levy once the party amounced the method-

tomorrow but in the next cen-tury". The proposals lagged ology behind the tax. There would be no appeal process.

behind initiatives announced

by rivals.

• Yorkshire Electricity in-

# **Allders** reflects retail boom

Roger Cowe

EPARTMENT store chain Allders yester-day produced evi-dence to back claims of a high street boom, reporting its best sales picture since 1988 and predicting that buoyant conditions would continue for two years.

Chief executive Harvey Lipsith acknowledged that interest rate rises would dampen consumer enthusiasm. But he was confident that the recovery was strong enough to withstand some increase, and should not be knocked by a Labour victory in the general

"If people feel that rates are on the rise then, even though they may still be dramatically below where they were three or four years ago, there is an element of nervousness that creeps into sentiment and that must flow through to the retail sector in par-ticular," said Mr Lipsith. "And while the election is bound to create uncertainty I don't think the out-come is critical to demand in the short term. So I am fairly confident of a strong retail market for up to two

years."
Allders, whose sales are more heavily weighted towards furniture and other heavy household goods. suffered during the reces sion. But the company saw sales surge during the sum-mer and said the strong sales picture was

continuing.
Excluding new stores and disposals, sales in the six months to September were more than 17 per cent ahead of last year. The fig-ures were even more dra-matic in Allders' 10-strong At Home stores, which sell household furnishings on out-of-town retail estates. In these shops, sales over the summer months were a third higher than in the

previous year.

Mr Lipsith said that this increase was flattered by poor sales during last year's hot summer, but many western nations — although not Britain — in forcing Mr Ruggiero to water down his idea to a general commitment to address shoppers had continued to spend freely during the autumn. In the first nine veeks of the current financial year, comparable sales were 14 per cent higher than last year. The group's total sales last year were 2756 million.

### Vested interests block WTO plan



. As representatives of western states toast each other, little has emerged from the Singapore conference to help a child worker in India MANN PHOTOGRAPH: MYANIA SHAW

# **Poorest** traders kept on outside

Larry Effictt in Singapore

HE world's poorest countries look set to leave the World Trade Organisation ministerial confercollapse of a plan to give them duty-free access to the rich markets of the West.

Some of the stiffest opposi-tion to the blueprint, put for-ward by WTO director Renato Ruggiero, came from a handful of Asian textile exporters who feared it would boost Bangladeshi producers at their expense. They joined forces with

marginalisation. The WTO is now hoping that Britain may set an exam-

ple to other western nations by coming up with its own unliateral deal in the new year, in an attempt to help 29 countries pinpointed by the WTO. Of these, 27 are in sub- | and Portugal.

Seharan Africa and only two - Bangladesh and Haiti - are significant clothing and

footwear exporters.
Under pressure from poorer nations and the aid agencies, the WTO has been eager to show that free trade brings benefits to all its 127 members and not just the developed economies of Europe, North America and East Asia.

A report by Christian Aid this week reflected concern that the poorest countries are being marginalised when it said 48 developing countries are worse off as a result of the last round of trade

It strongly endorsed the idea, floated by Mr Ruggiero at last summer's Group of Seven summit in Lyon, that the least developed countries should face zero tariffs in an attention to build an about the least developed countries. attempt to build up their export industries. Despite the fact that Christian Aid's list of countries accounts for only 0.3 per cent of world exports, the proposal has been opposed by Canada, the US, Spain, Italy, Prance

There had been a chance, going into the Singapore talks, that the West might agree to the Ruggiero plan as a way of securing agreement from developing countries on changes to investment rules and competition policy. The refusal of the big textile

exporters — India, Hong Kong Pakistan and Indonesia — to back the idea has forced Mr Ruggiero to admit defeat. WTO sensitivity to the charge that trade liberalisation has brought benefits only to the richer countries was to the richer countries was released a paper arguing that The WTO believes that their products.

lower-income countries would benefit from free trade. Blackhurst said African nations stood to reap little benefit from the Uruguay Round of talks because they had taken only small steps towards trade liberalisation.

Opening up their economies would mean richer rewards. While admitting that the bulk of the gains would go to richer nations, he said smaller nations would benefit from WTO rules because they would no longer be subject to unilateral action by powerful

phasing out the multi-fibre arrangement — the protec-tionist measure that keeps low-cost imports out of west-ern markets — will eventually bring huge benefits to de

veloping countries.
It admits that the deal has been back-end loaded so that the lucrative markets of Europe and North America will not be significantly open until 2005. As a result, devel-oping countries have taken a tough line on issues such as bringing labour standards under the aegis of the WTO, which they fear could lead to

News in brief

### Waldegrave pensions boast angers MPs

THE Treasury Chief Secretary, William Waldegrave, came under fire last night as he insisted future generations of taxpay. under fire last night as he insisted future generations of taxpayers would thank the Tories for their drive to push state funded
pensions out to the private sector. As MPs on the Treasury
select committee questioned him about Government finance
plans in the Budget, he argued that reducing pension liabilities
was crucial to cutting overall spending and had been tackled
more successfully in the UK than in most other countries. It
would mean not having to increase taxation on future generations to fund pension payments. "It was one of the most impor-

would mean not having to increase taxation on future generations to fund pension payments. "It was one of the most important financial changes of all from the 1980s and people will look back on it with great admiration."

Labour committee member Diane Abbott said only the "Tories" friends" in the private pensions industry would thank the Government and accused Mr Waldegrave of lacking interest in the millions — including teachers and postal workers — who lost money by transferring from state to private pensions. — Sarah Ryle and Charlotte Denny

#### Watchdogs learn to share

FIRST steps towards bringing the gas and electricity regulators under one roof appear to have been taken yesterday with the announcement that a leading official is to work for both watchdogs. Eileen Marshall, who had been poached from the Office of dogs. Elleen Marshall, who had been poached from the Office of Electricity Regulation to work for Offgas, is to return to Offer for one day a week while continuing at Offgas for the rest of the time. The right-wing economist was widely seen as the leading light behind the review of charges for British Gas's TransCo pipeline business, now the subject of a Monopolles Commission inquiry. She is an enthusiastic champion of competition and the free market.

market.

Labour has hinted that it would bring Ofgus and Offer together—particularly after the gas and electricity markets open to full competition in 1988. Former energy minister Tim Eggar suggested recently that he would back such a move. — Sumon Receits

#### Virgin Direct censured

VIRGIN Direct, the financial services arm of Richard Branson's

VIRGIN Direct, the financial services arm of Richard Branson's business empire, was yesterday rapped over the knuckles for claiming in an advertisement that the insurance industry had failed "to protect families in ways to suit them best".

The Advertising Standards Authority upheld a complaint from a trade body for independent financial advisers that Virgin's advertisement was "unfair and likely to mislead". Virgin said earlier complaints had been dismissed. — Richard Miles

#### Chemical compound created

GERMAN chemicals group Hoechst said it would spin off its GERMAN chemicals group Hoechst said it would spin off its speciality chemicals business to Clariant of Switzerland, creating a company with annual sales of about DM9 billion (£3.5 billion). Hoechst said the move, which will leave it with a "significant minority stake" in the enlarged Clariant, is designed to cut costs, while Clariant, spun off by Sandoz last year, would gain a competitive advantage.

Clariant shares rose as much as 8.5 per cent on the unexpected news while Hoechst shares costined 3.2 per cent on the unexpected

news, while Hoechst shares gained 3.2 per cent in Germany. "Yet another giant seems to be in the making," said Patrick Carisch of Swiss Volksbank. "It's all about size, and is part of the trend to become higger and at the same time focused."—Bloomberg

#### Ex-minister joins Unigate

JOHN MacGregor, former Conservative education and transport secretary, and MP for Norfolk South, yesterday joined Unigate, the dairy and distribution firm, as a non-executive director. Mr MacGregor, who was minister of agriculture, fisheries and foods between 1967 and 1969, is also a director of Associated British Foods and Slough Estates. — Reuter

#### Supermarkets stunt greenery

SUPERMARKETS are holding back the growth of green shopping because they do not provide clear product information, according to the National Consumer Council. Research by the NCC found that one in three consumers is committed to buying products which do less damage to the environment, while one in five hampered by a lack of clear information. - Roger Coure



THEMENT . WENTER SHIP AND THE STATE OF THE S Barclays Bank plc Standard Visa 22.3% APR, GM Card 20.5% APR. American Express APR based on 22,000 stronge line of credit with feet Barcians Sank pic Standard Visa ZZ.376 AP'K, GM. Cara Zu.576 AP'K. American Express APK based on EZ,000 enemage line of credit with for universal furth year. Competitors' APRs based on EL,000 of credit with fee included where applicable. Source: Moneyfacts. American Express may vary the APR interest rates and other charges from time to time. A written quotation is available on request. The standard interest rate for goods and services is 1.3% per month (22.4% APR) for cash advances, which must be repaid in full each month. The minimum monthly repayments will be 5% of the outstanding balance or £20 whichever is greater Applicants must be 18 or over. Subject to status. American Express Services Enough Ltd., Reg. Office. Portland House, 1 Stag Place, London SWIE 58Z, Reg. No. 1833139.

# From bomb sites to prime sites

After the devastation of the early 1990s commercial property has become fashionable again, writes lan King

SUDDENLY commercial lier this year floated the revitalised Trocadero development, and Elliott Bernerd, the
highly respected chairman of
tather of the sector, is sitting
behind some of London's

Mr Rithlat is commercial property comsecond biggest property com-pany, which yesterday un-veiled a highly impressive 81 per cent increase in half year pre-tax profits to £34.8

More significantly, he is More significantly, he is just about the only one of that great generation of property entrepreneurs which bestrode the 1970s and 1980s to have ridden out successive boom-bust cycles endured by the sector. He now finds himself the role model for a thrusting new generation of property men.

The best known of this new industrial organisms while the

bombed-out of markets in the early 1990s — is seizy again, and John Ritblat, the godfather of the sector, is sitting pretty.

Mr Ritblat is chairman of Rutish Land Britain's

sector has swung back into fashion on the strength of solid if unspectacular economic growth, along with predictable and steady — certainly compared with those of

ensured that retail rents have pair's retail property hold-also flourished. pair's retail property hold-ings — Mr Ritblat expects the

The question now is what

also flourished.

1997 will hold for the commercial property market, and, as the sector's great survivor, Mr Ritblat is better placed to

comment than most.
According to him, the sector as a whole — though it is dangerous to generalise — is poised to improve further over the next year, as the economy continues gradually to strengthen. In particular, Mr Rithlat cited the office market as being particularly promising, with the City and West End of London continu-

West End of London continuing to lead the way and the
rest of Britain lagging behind.
"The potential is there for
quite a big jump, though I
think we'll actually see more
modest increases. But in the
provinces, the initial promise
of the recovery has not been
borne out, and there have been no increases in rents yet. However, you are begin-ning to see a glimmer of im-provement there now."

recent booming demand for out-of-town sites to continue boosted by government restrictions on building.

"Retail has almost been like the office market was at the end of the 1960s. The feelgood factor and a feeling that the rationalisation of the 1990s has come to an end have helped, and I think there's a reasonable consensus that even an interest rate rise of between 1-1% per cent won't be terminal."

Strate Property

Markette and

Sharp shock the

\* a .

The boom might spell trouble for high street rents, but this would not be a nation-wide phenomena, with some high streets redefining themselves 'as 'boutique' shopping areas.

ping areas.

As for British Land, the City had to eat humble pie yesterday, having been sceptical about the company's ability to digest the whole of the Broadgate development last year. The deal has been a huge success. Although he could have rubbed the city analysts noses in it, Mr Ritb-That has also been true for In the retail sector — where In the retail sec



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#### Carlton changes image with £17m Getty film library stake

Pauline Springett

MEDIA group Cariton has forked out £17.3 million on a 10 per cent stake in Getty Communications, the film and picture library company backed by the Getty family dynaety dynasty.

Carlton has the option to

increase its investment to 20 per cent within two Jonathan Klein, Getty's

chief executive and cofounder, said the newly injected funds would be used

expertise in areas such as the manipulation of images

Mr Green said the deal would enable Cariton to tap into the first industry of distributing still and moving pictures. "Getty is at the forefront of this change," he said.

Mr Klein created Getty Communications

Communications three years ago with Mark Getty. the son of J. Paul Getty II the philanthropist.

Each founder owns just under 4 per cent of the company, Getty Communications

jected funds would be used to expand the company organically and by acquisition.

Carlton's chairman, Michael Green, will join the Getty board as a nonexecutive director and Mr Klein said: "Michael has done with Carlton what we would like to do here."

Mr Klein said the deal would enable Getty Communications to benefit from Carlton's technical

To find out how we can help you do

more, call now:

British Horseracing Board chairman replies to his critics in forthright Gimrack speech. Chris Hawkins reports

# Wakeham emphasises need for unity

ORD Wakeham came out fighting in his speech at last night's York, traditionally held in honour of the winner of the Gimcrack Stakes in August, accusing his critics of naivety and racing of having more chiefs than indians.

The chairman of the British Horseracing Board was responding to demands, in some quarters, that he should be sacked after the failure of racing to win any concessions from Kenneth Clarke in the

recent Budget.
"No sooner had the Chancellor sat down than the recriminations began," said Wakeham. "Journalists Wakeham. "Journalists reached for their phones and is regrettably notorious opened up. There were calls for Tristram Ricketts, my chief executive, and myself to

be sacked or to resign.
"To judge from some of the the Jeremiahs, racing is about to grind to a halt but that simply will not happen. Racing is resilient and will show itself in its true colours — determined, creative and

But Wakeham emphasised that only by working together will the industry make progress and on the issue of the BHB assuming control of the distributive function of the

We haven't a cat in hell's chance of persuading the Govwhat goes on in the real world. If racing is to continue to be taken seriously by Government to provide the legis lative changes we need if ernment, it needs quickly to develop a perceptible matutinue to make the sort of illconsidered pronouncements rity in its approach to key issues and that means putting crescendo in the last aside the relentless pursuit of

"Some of them have shown sectional interests."
eathtaking naivety and I "So please, let's have less breathtaking naivety and I



Debut defeat . . . Moonax puts in a good leap on his first outing over hurdles at Huntingdon yesterday but at the finish he found Sharpical too good

am afraid are typical of those discordant voices. Let's de-who don't bother to learn bate calmly and rationally.

Racing people come in all great disappointment to me sergeant-major stance to hint much racing, particularly tiered structure of race-shapes and sizes, rich and that racing and the betting in at the way forward and the poor, mean and generous, dustry were unable to sub-possible solutions to the prize money levels are so desperately low.

In the racing people come in all great disappointment to me sergeant-major stance to hint much racing, particularly tiered structure of race-when our prize money levels are so desperately low.

The prize money which supports are so desperately low.

The particular statistic all levels to a degree but particular statistic. No activity with which I have been involved in a pretty var-ied life possesses so many chiefs and so few indians."

1541-32 LORD BCBURROUGH (25) J Reville 8-12-0 2257(9- DEFALL DANCER (642) (5) M Pipe 5-12-0 04-1272 EALASADI (14) V Soore 5-11-10

the Treasury.

"The extent to which two separate submissions really did prejudice the chances of After administering this success will never be known anced list and meet the descripture to his own troops, but one thing is certain, it mands of our several customstricture to his own troops, Wakeham then turned on the harmakers saving: "It was a wakeham abandoned his

money crisis in racing.
"The fixture list is one of

the key areas we need to look at" he said. "We have tried ers, but that itself produces the complaint that there is too

when our prize money levels are so desperately low. "One particular statistic Michael Stoute has won more money overseas this year than Saeed bin Suroor in winning our domestic champion

"I doubt whether there

Sport in brief

## George best in world

MMA GEORGE of Australia twice broke the old mark in setting an indoor pole vault world re-cord of 4.40 metres (14ft 5in) yesterday, writes Duncan Mackay. In a school gymna-sium in Melbourne she first cleared 4.30m to add the indoor record to the outdoor one she collected a year ago and has since broken five times. The previous indoor record of 4.28m was held by China's Sun Caiyun.

Garry Kasparov took an im-mediate lead at Las Palmas in the tournament between the world's top six grandmasters, writes Leonard Barden. De-spite playing black, the world No. I defeated Bulgaria's Veselin Topalov in a 59-move

#### Hockey

India's Mohammed Riaz served a 38-minute suspension after receiving a yellow card in the first 10 seconds of the Champions Trophy 1-1 draw with Netherlands in Madras yesterday, writes Pat Rowley. He-appeared to hit Martin Ei-kelboom with his stick.

#### Cricket

The Derbyshire batsman Chris Adams yesterday threatened to go to the European courts if the county rejects his offer of £50,000 to buy out the remaining two years of his contract.

Cardiff Devils have signed the 23-year-old Mannheim for-

cularaly encourages the

1.40 TORNA CLARING STAKES (DIV 2) 1m \$2,664

42036 BATTLESEEP BRECK (102) (CD) T Cassy 4-0-1
25301 - D MAXERIE (109) S Dow 4-0-1
87220- A SELLION WATTS (560) (D) G McCourt 5-8-0
40100 BOOMN (118) T Neughton 5-8-0
40100 BOOMN (118) T Neughton 5-8-0
870000HTORS BELLISH W Messon 3-8-5
870000HTORS BELLISH W Messon 3-8-5
50040 LAHEK (16) K Nory 3-8-2
50040 BREMINDOR (08) K Nory 3-1-13
97000-0 BRANDSTAR (16) S Campion 8-7-12
9-6 ZELAYA (26) G L Mcora 3-7-12
87000 TOPS A 20000 William 8, in Messon 3-7, Jo Bindons

TOP PORM TIPE; A Million Wells 8, Nr Hovermind 7, Jo Resdress C

10 KORD ROCK THE CASSAN (15) J Natherion 7-10 ...

2.40 COMMERCIAL CERLING PACTORS HANDICAP 24 ES4804

26115 GUEST AUJANCE (15) (CD) A ROCALP Ze EL, GSA 26115 GUEST AUJANCE (15) (CD) 4 Septem 8 -9-8 30027 COURSTOR (22) (CD) 4 Septem 8 -9-8 30027 COURSTOR (22) (CD) 4 Septem 8 -9-8 30027 COURSTOR (23) (CD) 4 Septem 8 -9-1 1

3.10 SELMA MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDIER STARES 210 71 EZ-200

### SECOND AUGUST | Harmon 9-0
42000 BOLD SPERIOR (41) | Harmon 9-0
42002 CASTLES BURNING (13) C Cyzar 9-0
(5000 BLLROY (62) P Konlevely 9-0
(5000 BLLROY (62) P Konlevely 9-0
(5000 BLROY | HARMON 9-0
(5000 BLROY BASE (70) A Fostor 6-9
(5000 BLROY BASE (70) A Fostor 6-9
(5000 BLROY BLROY (51) B HYBROX 8-9
(5000 BLROY BLROY BRANC (51) B HYBROX 8-9
(5000 BLROY BRANC

3.40 LADEROKZ ALL-WEATHER TROPHY HANDICAP (DIV 2) 77 02,643

TOP FORM TIPS, Militar &, Sold Suring 7, Capting Burning 6

Betting: 3-) Mr Nevernind, 4-1 Jo Maximus, 5-1 Battieship Bruce, 7-1 A Million Waste, 5-1 Zaleya. Matinia, 12-1 Kejaster, 18-1 Serces, Shermood

| Color Carlotte | Car

lettings 5-2 Helio Dolly, 11-4 Chief Predetor, 5-1 Cas-N-K, 7-1 Bermood Grackers, Greenwich Fors. 5-1 Austerstroke, 10-1 Motocolty Club, Aspecio Lad

| 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-10 | 15-1

crowds may be acceptable."

courses that attract the Nick Faldo will launch a na-It sounds as if Wakeham tionwide junior series tomorrow week in an effort to disforesees no racecourse clocover players of the future there dissenting voices on

ward Steve Thornton.

#### Leicester with guide to the latest form

Gelog: Chese, Good to firm; Nurdios, Good to soft. + Denotes bilabars. Figures in brackets after horse's asses denote days since latest MH outh 2-11 MAILSTOCK MEACHE (9) (D) Mrs. J Pipman 6-11-3 213-21 POTTERTS GALE (27) (D) D Micheleon 6-11-3 0-5-8 May Franc (24) A Bookly d-10-10 3 PARTASY LIME (14) F Webber 5-10-10 5-10 LARY POLLY (PS) C Mem 4-10-10 6-10 METURES MISS (214) M Williagon 4-10-10

8 203- QUALITAIR PRIDE (377) J Settentley 4-10-10
8 04-000- QUICK QUOTE (230) In 11 Medic 4-10-10
10 5 TREPARE (25) N Gratan 4-10-10
TOP PORM TIPS: Potter's Gale 8, Seleteck Rieggie 7, Partney Line 6 tegs 7-4 Poter e Cule. 7-2 Metatock Maggie, 9-2 Fantasy Line. 8-1 Boy Fair, Fip's Drasss, 16-1 tor Price. 16-1 Lady Poley, 16-1 Trebane FORM GUIDE - POTTER'S GALL: Led 2 out, soon clear, comfortably. ersky Dryf, every chenco last, one pago, 1\$1 3rd of 7 behinz Bogrdroom Shoffe FANTIASY LIRBS Headers July, every chance last, one pace, 19 July of 7 person Beginnonn Shottle Fightestone 2mil 10th now hold, GD, BAY FAUR: Ellert List, stayed on list, 71 Sm of 16 bird Not For Turning (Remission Jim now hat, Go-Sh), Party shiftable List, headed 2 out, soot testen, left 2mil Lest, 61 Cm of 17 to Rongithol (Markot Ration 2016) TATAN PRODRES Sayed on Irom 8 out, not reach leaders. 31 3nd of 16 bird Prophete Honour (Leforeter 7m now not 16 Go-Sh)

1.30 SPRUCE NOVICE CHASE 2m 41 110yda C3,670 

RANSTOWN LARD Headway 12th. Bundered builty 2 out, not recover, 2ft 3rd of 11 bhd Mammy a Cholce (Purpties new) con to 64-5th
THE ROCKET HOUSE Let 12 2nd, hall 5th behand Phorescent (Noverther 5.m4) 10y nov ch. 6,54th.
LOCH GARRIAN HOTEL Unreasond rider 1st behind Bankhead (Powcester 3.m4) 10y nov ch. 6df. Previously 24-2nd to Dan de Cadran (Browster 3m nov ch. 6df)
EMARIA Alverys behand, build off from 4 out, 25th 3rd of 4 to Ch. So Reiny (Anast 2m nov ch. 6d-6m)
SERIOSPARIA ROSEL Let 7m headed 3 out, link in last tiest, headed circle home, neek 2nd of 4 behind Koo's Promise (Wincamon 2m nov ch. 6d)

| O CRESTNUT COMPATIONAL SOCIETY SELLING HURDLE Ins 62,612 |
14504- BERCHTFELD FLATS (250) W Cley 5-10-12	D. Terrinary
14504- BERCHTFELD FLATS (250) W Pins 7-10-12	F. Lesbry
14504- BERCHTFELD (250) M Pins 7-10-12	G. Sequisi V
14504- BERCHTFELD (250) M Pins 7-10-12	G. Sequisi V
14504- BERCHTFELD (250) M Pins 7-10-1	S. Canada
14504- BERCHTFELD (250) M Pins 1 Bover 5-10-1	Michael Bress
1509- BOSSALES WOYALE (260) M Pins 7-10-1	Michael Bress
1509- BOSSALES WOYALE (260) M Pins 7-10-1	BROWN (5) M Pins (5) M Pins (5)
1509- BOSSALES WOYALE (260) M Pins 7-10-1	BROWN (5) M Pins (5)
1509- BOSSALES WOYALE (260) M Pins (7-10-1)	BROWN (5) M Pins (6)
1509- BOSSALES WOYALE (260) M Pins (7-10-1)	BROWN (5) M Pins (6) M Pins (

Bertings 5-2 Fervan Court. 11-4 Fleet Cadet, 9-2 Parish Wells, 5-1 Fastov Gold, 8-1 Parisan Butterfly. Scottish Paris, 14-1 Beachtreid Flyer, Rosaine Royale

Marine Tips, Philip's Woody C. Wall Bristed ?

Betting: 2-1 Philip's Woody, 11-4 Importal Virtage, 7-2 Walt Sineted, 4-1 Lord OI The West, 9-1 The Shy Padre Proces CANNOS - PRELEY'S WOCKNY; Headway 4 out, went 7nd 3 out, no Improvation, 9 and of 5 between Times Ensurgh (Chellenham Shi Minco ch, Gil. DEFERSIAL, VINTYAGEM Held on, every chance when left alone 4 out, won at Chellenham 3rd frow ch, Gd-For WELL DRIVERSIAL Left to (200, 3nd whom mishalos 4 out, workwood 3 out, 17 3nd of 7 behand Goldon Spannor

#### **Sharp shock for Moonax**

Richard Dunwoody took up the running after the third He said: "Moonax stays two last on Moonax and they were and a half miles on the Flat so | Bettings 7-4 Willy Star, 7-1 Caroninghothered Box

ing to a length-and-a-quarter | Bay to 7-1 from 8s.

المستحدا

OONAX, the 1994 St Leger winner, was removed from Coral's Champion Hurdle betting after set about destroying the runseless better fair and attentions. being beaten fair and square by Sharpical on his jumping debut at Huntingdon vesterday.

are up berth in the unsad-dling enclosure by lashing out at a fence, but he is still on course for Cheltenham and Never far from the lead, his trainer Barry Hills was

	4 0733:10- GARRAYNA (4479) D Nicholason 5-11-0 A Blacelina 5 14- WASSI, STREET (2023) (0) K Morgan 4-10-13 M Williamson 6 11/2-0-P ROYAL CHTZERI (253) (0) J Bottomioy 7-10-12 A Broadley 7 21/29-7-C GAPTAIN BY CARTAIN (1465) R Brotherion 6-10-0 J. Harvey 8 50054- VESCOUNTY TULLY (2015) G Jackson 11-10-0 Millson 5 Jeckson
	70P FORM TIPS: Wasel Street 2, Lord McMayrough 7, Royal Citizes 6
	Bettings 5-2 Lord McMarrough, 5-1 Gerelybs, 7-2 Kelasself, 4-1 Wass! Street, 7-1 Öhrell Dagosr, 16-1 Royal Cibzen, 25-1 Captain My Captain, Viscount Tuily
	FORM GUESTS - LONG MICHIGANISM Led until headed 2 cut, kept on, 81 2nd of 9 behind Henriette Howard Huntragion 2nd 150 km pint, Gold, Gol
4	3.30 OAK HARDICAP RURDLE 2m C2,544
	1 41154-4 CAWARRA SOY (16) (CD) C James 8-11-10
	2 4101-21 CIRCUS LINE (11) (D) M W Easterby 5-71-6
•	3 1514- EURO SINCER (225) (D) P Webber 4-11-3
	4 615467 - ERLKBIG (215) (D) 3 Melor 6-11-1
•	8 40/222 SHEPHIFIOS REST (210) (D) S Major 4-11-0 S Hours (7)
	6 51174-6 KADARI (11) (0) W Clay 7-10-11 A Thorston 7 043%-3 KELLY MAC (25) (0) D O'Brion 6-10-4 C Lieughin
	8 GU-107- ALASKAN HESR (298) (CD) A Streets 5-10-4T Eley
n	9 1234-3 KENTANI (12) (D) T Domety 6-10-1 Q Began (8) 10 10730- SHEECKY (246) (CD) B McMahan 5-10-0 D Bridgester
	TOP PORM TIPS: Kelly Mac S. Circus Line 7. Kaderi S
•	Bettieur 7-4 Circus Line, 9-2 Coverna Box, 6-1 Shepherds Rest, 7-1 Kelly Mac, 8-7 Euro Singer, 10-1
-	Eriking, Kintavi, 14-1 Kindari, 20-1 Alaskan Herr 10 research

PORSE CURDE - CIRCUS LIRCH Mischaes, made all, stayed on well from 2 out, wen by 35 from Done Well (Newcastle 2m hap not Gd)
CAWARRIA BOY: Held up, headway 5th, ridden and beaten next, 23 4th ol 7 behind Telinein (Huntingston 2m Huntingston 2m), and come field (35-5th).
SMEPHSERIOS SESTI. Chaped (section, every chance 2 out, no come fiel, 34 2nd of 7 behind Eden Denomination).

Blinkered for the first time today: HEXHAM 3.20 Ar Aghaidh Abhalle.
 LEICESTER 2.00 Fleet Cadet. LINGFIELD 12.10 Grasshopper; 12.40 The Frisky Farmer; 2.10 Greenwich Fore, Neon Delon.

### Lingfield all-weather Flat card

1.10 Annal Face

Goings Mandard. \* Denotes leftstore. Deput Low sumbors for Figures in introducin after horse's come denote drys after his 12.10 TODBIA GLARBING STAKES (DIV I) Im CO,496

Bettlag: 9-2 Welkful Besch, 6-1 Silp Jig, 6-1 Airborne Harris, Spencer's Rev Secret, Vanborough Lad. 12-1 Chally Dancer

1.10 MARIA AMATEUR REDERS HANDICAF 140 25 C2,083 
 V BARDA ARRATERIA RESISTE FEATURE THE 2 \*\*\* CAPO\*\*
 T ReCurriny 10

 19400 AUTURER COVER (34) P Hedger 4-12-0
 T New York

 19405 GOLD SEADE (12) (CD) J Peters 7-11-0
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 19405 TOUR BOOST WELCOME (22) (CD) D fronth Davis 5-11-1
 Bits 1. Passes 5

 401041 SOUTCHE (19) (10) J Jendrid C-11-4
 Bits 1. Passes 6+

 401042 AMOSEL PAGE (4) (CD) (SF) P Erzes 5-11-3
 A Reens (7) 6

#### Hexham runners and riders

2.20 Ambreuch 2.50 Daring Past

12.50 STORDATION BREWERY SPECIAL ALE AMATEURS INCAP RUROLE 36 CLASS 

Bettings 9-4 Betie Rose, 4-1 Scarba, 6-1 Dakty Days, 8-1 Balletsetalis, 10-1 Rat Top, Hadden Bey Trader, 12-1 Gymrair Cyrano, 14-1 Mardoot T - ZU SACING CHARMEL SOVICE HARBSCAP CHASE 3mg 19 53, 201 534-321 BRONYBROSS (12) Mrs 5 5mith 7-11-11 202 5012 P-1 3LOTABLATHORIC (19) G R-Chards 7-11-5 203 310 CADER IDRIS (14) (BF) Mrs M Reveloy 7-11-0 204 536-141 SEEMEND GOLD (9) (70% mg) (9) Berclay 7-11-0 205 505-614 SEEMEND GOLD (9) (70% mg) (9) Berclay 7-11-0 205 505-61 SEEMEND GOLD (9) G Moore 6-10-11 205 505-61 SEEMEND REVER (12) R Colles 5-10-12 207 504/2-2 BAMECA (14) M Doch 6-10-6 208 LINGS-6- DISTRILERY MELL (8) Y Thompson 6-10-2 209 40.05-4 COLD PROBON (12) B Rothwell 7-10-0 210 304-03- AVOWNIAT (2011) J O Notil 6-10-6 211 50-79-P DISSEMBLIKE DAYS (2013) F Krby 7-10-5 212 0050- ROOSA SOURD (227) L Largo 6-10-0 304-03 107-1 Mrs 108-1 SEEMEND (227) L Largo 6-10-0 305 107-1 Mrs 108-1 SEEMEND (2013) 107-1 Mrs 108-1 SEEMEND (2017) L Largo 6-10-0 305 107-1 Mrs 108-1 SEEMEND (2017) L Largo 6-10-0 305 107-1 Mrs 108-1 SEEMEND (2017) L Largo 6-10-0 305 107-1 Mrs 108-1 Mrs 107-1 Mrs 108-1 SEEMEND (2017) L Largo 6-10-0 305 107-1 Mrs 108-1 Mrs 107-1 Mrs 108-1 SEEMEND (2017) L Largo 6-10-0 305 107-1 Mrs 108-1 Mrs 107-1 Mrs 108-1 Mrs 108-1

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		LAST ROUNDUP C Thoriston 4-10-12	M Foeter			
	0500-30	OVER STATED (7) P Coessbrough 6-10-12	G F Ryan (5)			
		ROADWAY JOKER (25) M Sarres 5-10-12				
	245463	ROSSERA (12) / Quirn 5-10-12	H Garrity			
		TAJAR M Dock 4-10-12	R Swafe			
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	5304'-	FIRST IN THE FRELD (898) N Maton 5-10-7				
		MEADOWLECK (26) W Young 7-10-7				
		MERSONGTIE (8) B ENGO 4-10-7				
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		RINGROME (18) V Thompson 7-10-7	No 20 Theresian			
	500	SAFETY THE (8) W Storoy 4-10-7	R Sig@rath (5)			
	50-6	THE FOLAL SPANK (12) G Richards 5-10-7				
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and a half miles on the Fiat so he should stay three over hurdles. The Stayers' Hurdle at the Festival might be the obvious race, but there is a long a winner over a mile and a quarter on the Flat in August, and bided his time until the final 100 yards before powering to a length-and-a-quarter. Bay to 7-1 from 8s.

and a half miles on the Flat so he should stay three over hurdles. The Stayers' Hurdle at the Festival might be the obvious race, but there is a long a quarter on the Flat in August, and bided his time until the final 100 yards before powering to a length-and-a-quarter. Bay to 7-1 from 8s.

2-30 SERDER COUNTRIS BESTURANCE STOYICE CHARK has 110
501 44 BOSHNY JOHNNY (140) Indignt 1-0-12
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503 PSSUV- DARRER PAST (500) Michamon 6-10-12
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506 0-0-504/ FINANCEREUL (111) V Thompson 7-10-12
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612 E004-0 KENTOCKY GOLD (125) His L WRITER
613 E014-0 COSA-6 MERICHARI (4) L Lungo 4-10-12
616 S- RAMBOM STARRS (279) G Richards 5-16
616 505-P30 RUBER (11) R Thomson 3-10-12
617 P229-0 WOODSTOCK LOODER (19) V Thompool
618 4/209-P BETABLES (187) J Dodde 8-10-7 TOP FORM TIPS: Clare Hald 10, Pharmistics 8, Young Kenny 6

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(it Alexander) You: E20.20; 54.40, C1.80.
(2.10. Dual P. C78.30. Yric: £129.50, CSP£127.60 Tricsat £1, 364.40.
PLACEPOT: £218.40. QUADPOT: £108.10.





# Two more clubs seek security through the City

**Tony May** on the stock market ambitions of struggling Southampton and Sunderland

OUTHAMPTON and to raise £30 million from City Sunderland became the latest clubs to step yesterday when he

247.7 million price tag on their stock market debut, timed for Christmas Eve. Southampton said they were being taken over for £10 million. lion by Secure Retirement, a property and retirementhome company, as part of an ambitious plan to transform the Premiership club into a Stock Exchange-quoted lei-

sure company.

The price of the takeover looks mean but the £14 million value of the team, including the talented striker Matthew Le Tissier, is not in the balance sheet, and its famous home. The Dell, is valued at only £4.3 million when it funds and proven business could be worth much more if skills. We have great ambiit were redeveloped.

Southampton, managed by Graeme Souness, are third from bottom of the Premiership after a run of poor results but are having to turn fans away from the ground, which has a capacity of just

The new company, Southampton Leisure Holdings, aims to relocate to a 25,000-seat stadium and "allied lei-sure development" on a 73acre site to the north of the city at Stoneham, near the M27, Southampton Parkway

seek City flotations agreed for the club to be taken over by Secure Retirement, which is run by Repert Lower which is run by Recure Retirement,

 and missing — property deals in the Bristol area.

It has £3 million readily available — which may be used to strengthen the team

 and brings instant access to the stock market, where it is valued at less than £5 million. Southampton is the bigger

partner in terms of assets, but Askham said: "Secure is bringing to the table cash, assets, access to stock market tions for this club, and this deal will play a very impor-tant part in achieving them." He said the board had spent six years buying up its new site and it hoped to receive approval for its development tomorrow. He said that if plans for the new site were to fall through, Southampton would upgrade facilities at The Dell.

He and the existing board will control 63 per cent of the shares in the new company but Lowe will be chairman of

Futre is forced to quit

almost 2600 to buy a stake in their club, as the minimum number of shares which can be bought at the 585p offer

About £10.7 million of the money raised will be used to improve the club's finances but it may also provide some extra money for the manager Peter Reid to bolster his playing squad. Sunderland were one of the lowest top-flight transfer-market spenders during the close season, and their major signings Niall Quinn and Tony Coton have been sidelined through

verted to help pay for car-parking facilities and the fit-ting-out of the club's new £15 million ground, currently being constructed at Monk wearmouth near the centre of the city.

The 41,000-seat stadium, due to open at the start of next season, will be second only to Manchester United in Premiership ground size and is seen by the club as the anchor for a host of new busi-ness opportunities already being exploited by rivals.

Pay-per-view television, which will offer fans the chance to watch any match live in the comfort of their own living rooms, was said in a recent Premier League survey to be capable of generating annual revenue of £2.5 billion for top league clubs.
It is due for a full-scale

station and an airport.

Guy Askham, the soccer announced as their fellow club's chairman, first needs strugglers Sunderland said merchandise. launch at the end of next year

#### CRICKET



Knight with shining armoury . . . the England batsman hooks a four on the way to his hundred PHOTOGRAPH: CHRIS TURVEY

Tour match: Matabeleland v England XI

# Knight hits perky century

PAULO FUTRE, West Ham's Portuguese in-ternational striker, has decided to quit the game at 30 after being plagued by a knee injury. After the recent goalless draw at Sheffield Wednesday the manager Harry Futre, but the matter was taken out of his hands yeswhen the player said: "My career is over. I | week offer, he refused to

self around the field."

Patrick Glenn

will have been received by

Celtic fans as joyously as it

play. Rangers have a habit of

allowing opponents an early ascendancy and United may

have thought their visitors were vulnerable as they made

some half-chances in the

found themselves under seri-

The champions' assertive-

and bolted clear on the left of yards.

Scottish Premier Division

Dundee United 1, Rangers 0

Tangerine tango as Gough

Patrick Glenn

as he made his way in home the left. It was not a penalty but the ball ran to McCoist, six yards out, and the record-breaking striker had a fresh-

was by those following nity during their earlier United. Richard Gough's own pushes had come to Winters,

goal in the second half ruined who dispossessed the dilatory the champions' prospects of Moore on the right and beat poaching a 17-point lead in Goram with a low drive from

the Premier Division by the 20 yards, only to watch the time the Parkhead side next ball slide past the far post.

opening 15 minutes but foul on Robertson, again

ness had been a growing and missed the ball, which thing but was unmissable by the time Cleland played a lovely one-two with McCoist sailed into the net from 12

and Goram get in a tangle

Premiership.
The centre-back would almost certainly have completed a £3.5 million move from the Italian club Cagliari last month but for what has diplomatically Redknapp admitted he was close to calling it a day with derstanding" over personal terms.

Although Vega initially is's £10.000 said I would never drag myself around the field."

Leeds will need to redeto pay tax. The defender.

air swing at it. United's only real opportu

They enjoyed better oppor-tunities early in the second

half, notably the shot from McLaren which Goram had to

palm away, but their goal had nothing scientific about it McLaren, booked earlier for a

lobbed the ball into the Rangers area. There was not a tangerine shirt in the vicinity

but Goram rushed from goa

fine their rigid pay structure if they are to tempt the Swiss international defender Ramon Vega to appear for them in the Premiership.

The centre back would al.

Who is adamant he is worth 2500,000 a year net, is also being courted by Tottenham, but the London club's owner Alan Sugar is adamant he will not pay infinitely supplied to the control back would al. flated salaries.

Liverpool are poised to sign the Norwegian international Bjorn Tore Kvarme from Rosenborg. The full-back, who had been expected to join Rangers, was at Anfield yesterday to discuss the terms of a free transfer. terms of a free transfer.

player-coach has been blocked by his club

DAVID GINOLA suggested

yesterday that this would be his last season with New-

castle and in English football.

The French winger, the star of a new television advertise-

ment for Renault entitled "Ginola Stays", said yester-day: "You should not read too

much into the commercial's

slogan because you never know what might happen at

It is not easy to come to

another country and work, because you miss your family

and friends and your normal way of life.

"Sometimes I miss home, and I feel for the Brazilians at

Middlesbrough because it is

the end of the season.

Ginola hints

at leaving

David Hopps in Bulswayo

ICK KNIGHT spent England's first rest day on the Zimbaowe tour painting in the Matopos Hills, a few yards beneath the burial place of Cecil Rhodes. It was a skill he had not much pursued since his schooldays, and for the time being he insists that the outcome will remain hidden at the bottom of his kitbag. If the end product was not

Rushden and Diamonds as gazing upon what Rhodes player-coach has been called "the view of the world", a sweeping landscape of eroded granite boulders, had a satisfying pay-off. When he tucked his bat back alongside the painting at the end of the first day's play against Matabeleland he had scored England's first 100 of the tour. A century at Bulawayo Ath-

letic Club, the granite in Eng-land's 199 for three, was proof that another bout of nets is not automatically the best solution for players struggling early in a tour. Within 24 nours of England's decision to refresh minds as well as train bodies, they were rewarded with their most satisfying day since leaving Gatwick a fort- of tea. It was then that Mpa-

flopped three times, failing to negotiate the first hour when plentiful swing and seam had been available for the quicker bowlers. This time, against a side that will provide the bulk of Zimbabwe's attack in the first Test, he produced a perky four-hour hundred, playing from the beginning with certainty and intent.

Conditions were hardly conducive to such relaxed batting. An inch of rain had descended the previous eve-ning and, although the covers storm half an hour before lunch brought a further inch and a stoppage of nearly four

Knight refused one offer of bad light to progress through the nineties as play was ex-tended past the scheduled close. A pulled boundary against Guy Whittall's me-dium pace moved him on the scoreboard from 96 to 99 and made his bat-raising pretty ir-relevant. A single in Whittall's next over provided opportunity for an encore, with the umpires surprising him by suspending play for the day three balls later.

In Harare, Knight had up a hostile spell which failed palmed the edge past first opped three times, failing to to fetch him a wicket but slip. By this time Rennie had egotiate the first hour when which might just bring him a la severe case of indigestion. "Mbangwa swung the ball both ways as well as making second Test cap down the road at Queen's next week. it bounce," Knight agreed "He was the most trouble-some of their bowlers."

Mhangwa, who had seen Hussain reprieved earlier in the over when the wicketkeeper, James, dived across Rennie at first slip, then found Knight's edge on 68 whereupon Rennie failed to intercept a fierce high chance. A tea break and 11 runs later, Knight escaped again when he slashed at Mhangwa and James again

#### Scoreboard

MATABELE AND: G J Whittall, M H Ook-ker, M Ranchod, D Vaghmeria, †W R James, M D Abrams, \*J A Renate, H H Streat, H K Olonga, A R Whittall, M Mbanowa.

Queensland v England A

## **Butcher** misses century again

Andy Wilson in Brisbane

N THEIR last game of the tour England A made two big discoveries about Queensland: the depth of the fast-bowling resources here and the spectacular rage of the summer storms. The home side took to The Gabba without nine first-team play-ers, the most notable absented

ers, the most notatie to scheet being Andrew Symonds, but their stand-in attack was well up to the task.

Michael Kasprowicz, Andrew Bichel and Adam Dale were all missing, and Craig McDermott has yet to play this season because of in-jury. Yet England A were given a torrid time after Stuart Law won the toss in hu-mid conditions. Scott Muller and Scott Prestwidge each took a wicket and Brendan Creevey, a 28-year-old on his first-class debut. managed

four for 41. Fortunately for the tourists. Surrey's Mark Butcher made his seventh half-century in 13 tour innings, although he was once again unable to get to three figures as England A struggled to 170 for seven.

The skies then turned black, and the torrential rain left puddles all over the ground and Mark Ealham un-

defeated on 32.
The tourists had omitted Owals Shah, Andrew Harris and Peter Such but Jason Gallian returned after recovering from a finger injury.
Michael Vaughan opened
with Butcher, however, and
lasted four overs before spooning a catch to cover.
Anthony McGrath was
caught at slip for a single and
Craig White then edged to the wicketkeeper after a quick 24.

Gallian joined Butcher in a fourth-wicket stand of 60 be-fore he was trapped leg-before for 26. There was little doubt about that decision but the captain Adam Hollicake was far from impressed when given out for a duck, driving Prestwidge on the walk. After lunch Butcher got

tied down by the left-arm spinner Paul Jackson and was eventually sixth out for not playing that well. I have managed to get to half-centu-ries without feeling as though I'm in top form," he said.

ENGLAND A

ENGLAND A
First invitings
M A Bucher c Cassell b Jackson
M P Vaughan a Baratry b Creevey
A McGrath c Law b Multor
C Write c Secombe b Creevey
J E R Galitan law b Creevey
'A J Holloake law b Preshvidge
M A Esiham not od
TW K Hegg c Law b Creevey
A F Gilden not od
Edna (166, 106)

QUEENSLAND: T.J. Barsby, T.J. Dinon. "S G.Law, J. Cascalt, J.P. Mahov, M.P. Mott, TW A. Sécombe, S. A. Preshvidge, B. Greevey, P. W. Jackson, 3 Multer. Umpires: P D Parker and J F Torpey

# Harder life for 'lefties'

Mike Selvey

Although Ginola is contracted to Newcastle until to return to the France team and play in the 1998 World Cup finals there. A move back home or to Spain might further that cause.
Emerson, who returned to Middlesbrough training yesterday, may well be back in action in the reserves at Hud-dersfield tonight and is al-

most certain to play at Liver-pool in the Premiership on the area. His shot was low and hard but Dykstra made a good blocking save.

McCoist shortly had an even better chance when Laudrup tumbled inside the box.

McCoist shortly had an even better chance when Laudrup tumbled inside the box. Saturday. Talks to resolve the Brazilian's future are expected today and will involve his

HIL TUFNELL, Richard Illingworth, Min Patel and the like will find

life more difficult when the Test and County Cricket Board — at its final meeting today before transmogrifying into the England and Wales Cricket Board — introduces spinners who at times fire the From next season any bowler in the County Champi-

onship who persistently does so will be subject to the limited-overs criterion for declaring wides, with the added penalty of two runs being pre-

sented to the batting side. Ad- | totally in-house — something venturous spinners will, how- | which it is hoped will speed ever, benefit from an extra 12 inches that will be added to the permissible intrusion of the seamers' follow-through down the pitch and into the

line of the stumps. Another measure to be rati-fied at the meeting is one en-suring that England are able to use a ball of their choice during a series rather than relying on the toss of a coin to decide. Last summer Pakistan won the right to decide on every occasion the sides met and chose a brand England would have discarded. With the dishanding of the Cricket Council, the hoard's old appeals body, all disciplin-

up the judiciary process.

The Andrew Symonds case is not on the agenda but should receive an unofficial airing. The Anglo-Australian may jeopardise his right to play for Gloucestershire as an England-qualified player should he play for Australia A against West Indies on

There have been sugges-tions from Australia that this game has no official international status and therefore Symonds's qualification should remain unaffected. The TCCB, however, is adamant that Australia A, when playing against tourists, do so in a "representative" match.

#### Azharuddin gives India control with chanceless 88 not out An UNBEATEN 88 by Mo- | morale when they were hammad Azharuddin | beaten by 58 runs in a lim-

swelled India's overall lead to 330 runs on the third day of the third and deciding Test against South Africa in Kanpur yesterday. He hit 15 boundaries as India, the boundaries as India, who started the day at seven for one in their second innings, reached 270 for five by the close.

During his chanceless innings the former captain put on 71 for the fifth wishest with the second.

It was Olonga, though, who

claimed the wickets that will most disturb England. Ather-ton, equally bereft of form, had made only four when Olonga's delivery left him in

the air and off the pitch.

Turning round to survey a wrecked off stump, Atherton

ise that it was middle which

came Olonga's second victim

in the final session when he edged to the wicketkeeper. England will be encouraged

by the mediocre form of Streak, Zimbabwe's most po-

tent fast bowler, who again struggled for rhythm. He has been absent with groin trou-

ble and has also been laid low

with the flu that has affected most of his family.

It is with some trepidation

therefore that it must be recorded that most England

players spent their day off barbecuin', shootin' and fishin' at the Streak family

game park. Perhaps Knight was particularly wise to spend the day painting.

had disappeared. Hussain be-

wicket with the present captain Sachin Tendulkar, who was yesterday ap-pointed to lead forthcoming tours of South Africa, Zimbabwe and West Indies.

West Indies suffered a further blow to their summer.

ited-overs match against an Australian Prime Minister's XI in Canberra. The tourists, 2-0 down in the Test series against Australia and without a win in the World Series competition, were outplayed by a team of Sheffield Shield players led by Allan Border. Chasing 258 for eight, West Indies managed only 200 for nine with Patterson

cause of a knee injury.

 Allan Donald, the South Africa pace bowler, has told Warwickshire he expects to be fully fit to return to Edgbaston next

early on against Tudor a pace and the Surrey man took three for 43, including the prized wickel of Hassen Reze, the latent full Test sensation, for three. Then Cosker. Glamorgan's slow latt-armer, exploited conditions to the full and in 17 owers returned superb liquides of five for 35 as Palustan were skittled for 123. England, set 150 to win, were 99 for three by the close.

Russig's Yevgerly Berzin will attempt to beat Chris Boardman's world procedure as

# Team talk

0891 33 77+

Arsenal	06	lpswich Town	19	Sheffield United	15
Aston Villa	11	Leeds United	03	Sheffield Wed.	14
Birm. City	34	Leicester City	35	Southhampton	20
Blackburn	21	Liverpool	04	Stoke City	30
Bolton	36	Man. City	02	Sunderland	27
Brentford	24	Man, United	01	Tottenham Hot.	07
Burnley	31	Middlesbrough	23	West Ham	12
Cheisea	80	Milwall	29	Wimbledon	26
Coventry City	17	Newcastle Utd	16	Wolves	37
Derby County	28	Norwich City	18	Celtic	09
Everton	<b>Q</b> 5	Nottrn. Forest	13	Rangers	10
Hudd, Town	32	QPR	25		

The Guardian CINTERACTIVE

Results Soccer **AUTO WINDSCREENS** SHIELD Northern Se Bury (1) 3

First round Johnrose 20 Certer 59 Luckem 64 Cartisle (0) 2 Walling 66 McAlindon 85

Lutes (0) 2 S Davis 51 Grant 65 BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE First Division Second Division Heavilton (0) 0 Little 22 Clyde (1) 1 Annand 18 Third Division SUNDSTRUCE,
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION:
First Divisions Milleral 2, Southermotion 0.
ASSAUS CUTP Group & UAE 2, Indonesia
G: South Korea 0. Kuwait 2.

whiten (0) 1 Rugby Union TOUR MATCHES: England A 22. Argentina 17; Richmond 12. Western Samos 32; Scotland Dev XV 31, Oweensland 63. ANGLIO-WELEN CUIP: Peel 2A: Ebbw Vale 15, Gloucester 22. UNIVERSITY MATCHE Cambridge 23, Oxford 7. American Football MFL: Oakland 26. Kanses City 7. Basketbali BUROPEAN CUP: Group R: Marc Kor-mend B4, Landon 79. MBA: Philadelphia 94, Seattle 118; Van-couver 81, Charlotte 107. Chess ans PALMAS: Round ones A Karpov (Rus) & V Ivanchuk (Mr)& V Anand (India) & V Krannik (Rus) & V Topelov (Bul) 0, G Kasparov (Rus) 1. Hockey ice Hockey NHL NY Rangers 5, Phoenix 2, i Anaheim 5; Chicago 1, Toronto 3 Cricket

Snooker GERMAN OPEM (Campbruck): 10th round: A Robidson (Can) bt J Ferguson (Eng) 5-1: D Rurold (Eng) bt D Gray (Eng) 5-2. **Fixtures** 

Soccer BELI'S SCOTTEN LEAGUE Premier Divisions Dunfernijns v Hibernian; Hoarts v Aberdeer, Motherwell v Raith (7.45). First Divisions East File v Greenock Morion; Airdrie v Clydebank. Gell VALVOALL COMPERENCE Moreambe v Gatesheed. UNIBOOD LEAGUE Premier Divisions Bishop Auckland v Accrington Stanley.

League Cap: Third-round reptay: Bo ton Utd v Hyde Utd. President's Co First-round replay: Blyth Spartans Fingle-round registry Blyth Spartans v Spannymor.

DR MANTENS CUP: Second rounds Corty Tn v Raunds Tn (7 45); Evesham Lid v Moor Green; Salisbury v Newport lots; Sittingsourne v Buldock Tn (7.45); St Leonards Stanford's Mantender Trophys.

NW COUNTIES: Fleedfit Trophys Second rounds Cables v Citheror; Resertable Utd v Atherion Col.

SCHMIFTER EMERGY LEAGUES Premier Dietsteen Caline Tn v Taumon Tn.

Dietsteen Caline Tn v Taumon Tn.

PORTINES LEAGUES Premiter Divisions
Bolton v Tranmers (7.0), First Divisions
Coverity v Leicoster (7.0); Huddersfield v
Middlesorough (7.0); West Brom v Stack,
pool (7.0). Second Divisions Surnley v
Wroxham (7.15); Hull v York (7.0); Rotherham v Man C (7.0); Stockport v Carliste
(8.45), Trivid Divisions Chester v Lincoln
(7.0); West Brown v Scarborough (7.0). (8.45). Third Divisions Chester v Lincoln (7.0): Wigan v Scarborough (7.0). Avon EMEURANCE COMBINATION: First Divisions Chariton v Crystal Palece (2.0): Potensouth v Inpentin (7.0); Tottonham v Swanses; West Herr v Bournsmouth (2.0); Windedoon v Brighton (2.0). Gill. Lasert LEAGUE CUP: Second resmot, second legs Caernston Tr. Vedenpool; Ebbw Vale v Barry Tr. Inter Cable-Tel v Carmarthen Tr. Ton Pontre v Britan Ferry. MISS LEAGUE First Birdsloss Carrick v Barlyman; Distillery v Ballyclera.
LEMSTER SERVICH CUP: Quarter-fischs Shelbourne v Cherry Orchard (7.45).

Rugby Union TOUR MATCH: England A v South Africa TOUR MATCHE Engans of Volume 1 A (Gloucester).

CLUB MATCHES: Cheltenham v RAF (7.0); Reading v High Wycombe (7.0).

FOUR COUNTIES CHAMPIONEMIPs Derbyshire v Shropshire (Derby); Gr Birmingham v Worcester/Herstord (Moselley).

COUNTY CHAMPIONESMIPS Norick v Cambridgeature (N Walsham): Sustoik v Cambridgeature (N Walsham): Sustoik v

Alex Tudor and Dean Coaker took eight wickets between them to put England on course for a commonly victory over Pati-stan in the opening under 19 cricket Test in Falsatabad. Faktetan, who began their second innings with a lead of 26, shrugglad.

Aguet a carry appearance

Sam Torrance joked lest night that 1997 could be the shortest year of his golfing career. He plays in the lour-man Anderson Consulting world champlership in Arizona on January 4-5 and it he beats the American Book Hoch in the semi-flesh of the matchplay event and then wins the final as well, the 42-year-old Scot, while pocked up his MBE, will pocked the same labulous million-dollar prize that Barry Lane brought home at the start of this season.

Season,
"It could be my shortest your ever."
Torrance said. "Yes tounds and win a
million. I think that might be it for the
year." But he quickly adnoct more senously that he has other goats in his mind.
particularly a ninth Rydor Cup cap.

# Half-way to the national sports academy

HE national sports academy aimed at producing the Olympic champions of the future will be chosed an unexpectedly long was floated by John Major in plays part in improving facilities.

The rand Sheffield, as well as several multi-venue bids. The idea for an academy mirroring those in countries future will be chosed was floated by John Major in plays part in improving facilities.

The provide world-class services and facilities for our top athletes."

Those bids which failed to make the shortlist could still is to give our sportsmen and plays part in improving facilities. from an unexpectedly long was floated by John Major in shortlist announced yester-day. Thirteen sites are in contention for the Proportion of the Proportion

Among the proposals that cleared the first hurdle was the early favourite from the British Olympic Association. It wants to turn a former. American airbase in Oxfordshire into the launch-pad for a comeback from the disap-

pointment of Atlanta Other possible sites include

from an unexpectedly long was floated by John Major in shortlist announced yesterday. Thirteen sites are in contention for the £100 million of Lottery money to be put towards the project.

Only about seven of the 26 bids were expected to make the first cut but the Government has kept its options open.

Such as Australia and France was floated by John Major in play a part in improving facilities and standards, he added. "Though they are not going forward in terms of the British Academy of Sport, we hope the bidders will consider, in due course, bidding to establish and run one of the regional institutes."

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regional centres of excellence. Sport is the most exciting development in British sport for many years," he said. "It will be the pinnacle of regional institutes and academies for nouncement confirms that." Bath, Birmingham, Manches | particular sports. And it will |

The sports minister Iain Sproat acknowledged the need for a strong regional setup when he announced the shortlist. "The Academy of Sport is the most exciting development in British groups." Sports is the most exciting development in British groups. ers might have thought we were just regional fodder,"

women the support they need on the world stage. We will deliver that vision.

This is a consortium of es-tablished leaders in sports training, science and medithe regional institutes."

Those behind one of the smaller bids, Bath, expressed their delight at being residue and all-round excellence, combining with the sports world and the private sector to deliver real results. Because our bid includes stantial elements already on the starting blocks it can be turned into action within months."

All would-be winners, who are expected to back their bids with substantial privatesector finance, will undergo detailed scrutiny over the next three months before the

#### The shortlist

Backed by more than 100 past and present athletes, including the Davids Wilde and Gower. Locations 110-acre site, near either letfleid or Watford

Cost: £55m. St

as neighbouring Bromsgrove. Location: Four sites, including a greenfield one south of the city. Costs £122m. Staff: 350.

a former American airbase. The which still has intact hospital bu ings and accommodation, would be a 285m gift from local council.

sports centre, Nottingham Universi-ty's Queen's Medical Centre and I Reshall

De Mostfort University

Based on sporting facilities already being developed by local councils and universities; linked with the pro-posed National Stadium and existng National Cycling Centre. Location: Next to planned National Stadium on inner-city site. Cost: Unknown. Staff: Unknown.

ocation: 120-150-acre site on the

A consortium including the city's two universities, two hospital trust and the council. It would build on dert Garnes, plus the planned National Ice Centre. Locations Don Valley Stadium, Cost: \$68m. 400

Sports City Foundation Claiming to be unique in that it will be financially self-sufficient within four years and even return £20m a year into sport.
Location: 500-acre greenfield size

UK Academy 2000
The sole wholly private consortium
— although supported by local
council — which includes Taylor
Woodrow, ICL and Kellogg's.
Locations 550-acre greenfield sh
15 miles east of Intil. 15 miles east of Hull. Costs £70m. Staff: 250,

**Rugby Union** 

Robert Armstrong sees Light Blue forward power subdue Oxford to the tune of 23-7 in the 115th University Match at Twickenham | Tour: England A 22, Argentinians 17

# Singer finds a song for Cambridge Hard victory



Singer . . . two fine tries and a drop goal

matics graduate from Porthcawl, sonal triumph which paved the way for Cambridge to lift the Bowring Bowl with plenty to spare at the end of yesterday's 115th University Match. blue, destroyed the Oxford defence with two memorable solo tries as well as dropping an elegant goal which summed up the Light Blues' ability to capitalise on

Oxford rarely raised their game with sufficient pace and ingenuity to test a well orga-nised side that fully lived up to its pre-match tag of favourites. The powerful Cambridge pack maintained a distinct edge in scrum and line-out which ultimately took a heavy toll on the Dark Blues' tiring defence and created the

147

opportunities for Singer.
The Cambridge centre, who is registered with Saracens, revealed that advice from the French international centre Philippe Sella had fostered his positive attacking style. "Sella gave me the inspira-tion to run the ball," he said. We talked about playing good rugby. The way Cam-bridge have been playing this term, there is always space available that allows who ever is on hand to score tries."

It is difficult to say how much Oxford were affected by the death of Ian Tucker — for whom a minute's silence was observed before the kick-off - but they looked subdued and short on physical aggression. In the final half-hour try. In the third minute, when



Up in arms . . . Cambridge celebrate their third victory in succession as Hogan, with ball, and team-mates show their disappointment

ity but overall Cambridge were adept at restricting the Dark Blues to slow ball.

"We never looked like scor-ing another try even though we were only 13-7 down for a long time," said Quentin de Bruyn, the Oxford captain, who retired with concussion early in the second half. "We were unable to generate the quick second- and third-phase ball we were counting on. We couldn't play the game we had planned for."

Nevertheless Cambridge had barely broken sweat when Oxford got off the mark with a

their half-backs Hogan and Averis threatened their opponents with sparks of creativity but overall Cambridge sion long enough for the Australian Jensen, Maher for dead with a darting the full-back Maher for dead with a darting that incident, which let in the three-score advantage, as decisive a victory as they could have hoped for.

Maher for dead with a darting that incident, which let in the distribution that incident that incident, which let in the distribution that incident t tralian centre Walsh to charge down his kick, gather and race 50 metres to score be-tween the posts. Averis added the conversion points.

Seven minutes later the Cambridge goalkicker Sur-ridge reduced the deficit with a 35-metre penalty goal for off-side. Midway through the balf Cambridge should have profited from a couple of scrums close to the line but the Oxford pack disrupted and wheeled their way out of

trouble.

However, shortly before half-time Singer took a grip of the game. First he took a slick ling Ryan. A minute before

run to the posts which left Surridge with a simple conversion. Then he suddenly materialised behind a ruck in front of the posts and dropped the sweetest of goals with his

left foot to put the Light Blues 13-7 ahead. They deserved their half-time lead if only because their forward pressure always seemed more likely to pro-duce scores than the off-thecuff sorties of Oxford's backs, who were further set back by

touchline when he might have been wise to kick and

chase. In the final quarter Ashforth and Averis went close with long-range penalties be-fore Surridge put Cambridge further in front 16-7 with a 25-metre penalty goal. Two minutes from the end Singer capped his afternoon with a magnificent second try, swerving outside one de-fender and inside another before plunging between a cou-ple of would-be tacklers to score at the posts. Surridge's conversion gave Cambridge a

have hoped for.

SCORERE: Oxford University: Try: Waish, Cowwardout Avenis, Cambridge Deliversity: Tries: Singer 2.

Comversity: A series: Comparity: General (Trinty), 2 de Bruym' (Keble), capt T.

Jenses: St. Anne's, 53min). T. Whatsh (Keble), R. Bruyme (University); J. Avenis (St. Cross), N. Hogan (Merion); J. Bothwell (Merion), T. Benses: (Noticon), N. Homelawer (Worcesler), D. Penses; (Wolfson), T. Elsenses: St. Anne's), H. Orsier' (Christ Church), C. McCarthy (Templeton), J. Kindon (Queen 3).

CAMBRIDGE: P. Sawridge (Hughes Hall); M. Walker' (St. Catharine's), H. Singer' (Homerton), N. Him (St. Edmund's), R. Phillips (Homerton); B. Rasiroston; S. Reimensey' (capt. St. Edmund's), A. Crafg (Hughas Hall), M. Hyde's (St. Edmund's), J. Graffith (St. Edmund's), M. Bothester' (St. Edmund's), J. Graffith (St. Edmund's), R. Phillips (St. Edmund's), R. Barsiross: (St. Lohn's).

Rederess: J. Poarson (Durham).

# at a high cost

night. England found replacement jerseys to protect themselves against the dank conditions at Franklin's Gardens but they also needed protec-tion against a rugged Pumas

stamped as England won the the boot, missing six kicks. game — but at a cost. Four players were taken off, the most serious injury to the former England scrum-half Mat-thew Dawson, who later hob-bled away from the ground on crutches after damaging his

Andy Blyth, the Newcastle centre damaged an eye and were warned by the referee Rob Kellam followed the pair after an early punch-up at a into the dressing room after maul in which Archer was the break. The home full-back | cuffed around the head. Ian Hunter also failed to fin- Grayson opened the scoring

sesson, had led 9-5 at the interval but their winning run was threatened when the Pumas' wing Soler dashed over for a try early in the second half, before England were penalised for pulling down a scrum on the hour when they conceded a penalty

try. On last night's evidence England will not have a comfortable ride when these countries' senior teams meet at Twickenham on Saturday. Dawson, his half-back part ner Paul Grayson and Northall discarded by England this season after doing nothing much wrong last season, were

all hoping to impress. Grayson steaded England with live well-struck penal-ties but left his best kick to

Moments earlier the replacement hooker French shirts were stolen the had dug the ball from a ruck previous day, were left and Hill's blindside break ney a chance for an opportun-

ist try in the corner. were not finished. Cilley struck an upright with a 55 sack. final minute. The fly-half had Fists flew and boots had a miserable night with Grayson showed him how it was done with a final penalty at injury time.

the first whistle. The lock

The A team, unbeaten last | the first quarter, while his opposite number Cilley missed two kicks of his own.

Argentina scored the first try when their prop Omar Hassan was driven over the line by his pack. Cilley missed the conversion, though, and Grayson immediately struck another penalty to restore England's lead. Just before the break the Pumas killed a ruck and Grayson stretched that lead to four points with his

| IEAG TO JOHF POINTS WITH his third penalty.

ENGLAND As I Humber (Northumpton):
D Loger (Huriequins), W Greenmood (Leicester), A Blyth (Newcastle), A Hackney (Leicester); P Grayson, M Dameson (both Northampton); K Yebes (Bath), R Kellem (London Irish), J Mallett (Bath), G Archer (Nowcastle), D Sienes (Gloucaster), B Damison (Heriequins), R HM (Saracana), T Diprose (Saracana, capt).

the end with a touch line con-

### Scotland call for Cpl Stewart

ROMOTION came quickly for Lance-Corporal Matt Stewart. and the Northampton tight-head prop is still recovering from the shock of being selected to play for the Scotland outs is more mobile. We should out-ruck them."

Bryan Redoath, who took selected to play for the Scot-land side to face Italy at Murrayfield on Saturday. The 23-year-old soldier is one of three changes to the team that finished the recent game against Australia: the Lions lock Andy Reed makes a return after a two-year absence with injury, and Scotland's record

recalled at centre. Stewart, chosen primarily for his strength and his good technique in the lineout, was initially picked for the Scotland Development XV to play Queensland but two days later was pro-

cap-holder Scott Hastings is

moted to the senior squad. "I was delighted even when I was chosen for the Development side but over the moon when I was called up for the senior squad," he said. "I fully expected to be on the bench. But winning

Bryan Redpath, who took over from Gary Armstrong when he injured his ribs

late in the second half against Australia, retains the scrum-half position. Armstrong should be in contention for Scotland's Five Nations opener against Wales at Murrayfield on January 18. There is also a positional

change, with the captain Gregor Townsend winning his 21st cap at inside-centre, the first time he has worn the No. 12 jersey.

SCOTLAND: R Shepherd (Metrose); A Stanger (Hawto), S Hautings (Watsonland), O Tevenseed (Northamoton. capi), K Legem (Stirling County); C Challenger, B Radgath (both Metrose); D Hitton (Bath), K McKenzie (Stirling County), M Shewart (Northampton), D Creaks, A Reed (both Waspa), M Wallace (GHK), E Peters (Bath), I Smith (Gloucester), Replacements: D Stark (Metrose), R Evilacements: (Ednour Metrose), R Evi

#### **Eighth Newbury forward ill**

NEWBURY's second-row forward Andy Newsham yesterday became the club's eighth forward to catch the same bacterial infection and the Rugby Football Union is expected to decide in the next ton Cup match against Lydney will go ahead on Saturday.

Lydney are worried about the fixture congestion that would result from a postponement but their manager Gordon Sargent said: "Our play-ers' health has to be our first concern and of course we will abide by the RFU's decision. The staphylococcus infection brings its victims out in boils.

#### Snooker

# King Harold

#### Clive Everton

DAVE HAROLD, the world No. 11 from Stoke, avenged his 9-6 defeat by David Gray in the UK Championship by beating the 17-year-old Mitcham prospect 5-2 to reach the German Open quarter-finals in Osnabrück. Harold, with breaks of 122, 56, 62, 45 and 62 to Gray's aggregate of only 24 in the last four frames, now plays Alain Robidoux, a 5-1 winner over

Jason Ferguson. lan Doyle, whose stable of 13 players includes Robidoux and Gray, condemned the additional disciplinary rules announced by the WPBSA this week as "striking at the basic right of free speech". They forbid players complaining to the media, even about playing conditions, but also make them responsible for the comments and statements of their managers and agents". Stephen Hendry compiled a 115 In beating Darren Morgan 5-1 and plays Ronnie O'Sulli-

van or Andy Hicks in the

#### Rugby League

#### Paul Fitzpatrick

STEPHEN HOLGATE will not be allowed to play for Wigan in their Boxing Day challenge match against St Helens unless they pay

110,000 to Salford Reds.
The money, owed through the deal that took the prop Terry O'Connor from Salford to Wigan in 1994, became due when O'Connor made his Great Britain debut on the recent Lions tour of New

and claim that Holgate, who joined Wigan for a reported 2100,000 from Workington Town last week, cannot be registered until the outstand-

registered until the outstanding money is settled.
John Wilkinson, the Salford
chairman, says Wigan are in
breach of the transfer regulations and that Maurice Lindsay, the sport's chief executive, supports Salford's stance.
Wilkinson also claims that until the debt is settled Workington will not be

#### **Holgate faces Boxing Day** keeps his eye in lay-off as Salford claim dues Amaechi is replaced by Dunkley

But Salford are still waiting

allowed to receive any money for Holgate, a 24-year-old Eng-

#### land international back-row "Whenever I have gone into a deal which involved future

payments I have always paid up," said Wilkinson. "The week after O'Connor played against New Zealand we sent an invoice for £10,000 plus VAT to Central Park. They said they could not pay as they had no money."

Salford are not kindly dis-posed towards Wigan at present. They are aggrieved at not signing Holgate themselves and were also pipped by Wigan to Dave "Doc" Murray, the highly rated 21-year-old full-back from Auckland Warriors who will be paraded at a press conference at Central Park next week.

The restriction on Holgate would also apply to Murray and to Stuart Lester, another Wigan signings from Auckland. The Kiwis too are supposed to play on Boxing Day. Wakefield Trinity have signed two Australians, the 24-year-old forward Richard McKell from Newcastle and

#### Basketball

# England face further trouble as

#### Robert Pryce

AN ENGLAND team in danger of relegation to the pre-qualifying tournament of the European Championship will play Germany in Dessau next Wednesday without the former Cleveland Cavaliers Amaechi.

Amaechi, who led Engand's scorers with 20 points in their 104-77 defeat n Estonia last month, misses the German trip because he is required on family business in the United States. He is replaced by Spencer Dunkley, who missed the Estonia game because of the mess he was making of his relationship with the French first div-

sion club Limoges Dunkley has suffered another troubled season in a time for tonight's Budchequered career. Distracted by impending fa-therhood, he effectively therhood, he effectively meaning suctions of the property of t

# He had made a miserably deficient contribution to

their strong start to the sea

son — averaging only 3.8 points and three rebounds in five league games — during which the club suspended him for what was reported to be lack of professionalism. He joined Be-sancon last week but on his centre-forward John debut at Paris St Germain last Friday he fouled out with no points as his new team went down to a seventh successive defeat.

Delme Herriman, who was injured, and Peter Scantlebury, whose wife was presenting him with a new daughter, also return to the team after missing the Estonia game. The Manchester Giants hope to obtain a work per-

the Samoan power forward released by Birmingham, in weiser League game at

mit for Frankie Edwards,

#### Hawks face

**Ice Hockey** 

# extinction

future was in doubt yester-day after Keith Milhench, their

coach and owner, suspended

activities for at least two

#### Vic Batchelder HE Kingston Hawks'

weeks while he attempts to raise funds. The Premier League club have postponed all games with immediate effect. At last Sunday's home game with Guildford, Milhench distributed a letter which pre-dicted a shortfall of £56,000 by the end of the season and invited each fan to apply by today for a minimum of 50 non-voting £1 shares in Kings-ton Hawks Limited. Otherwise, a statement added, "the club will cease to operate and

liquidation. Kingston were resurrected by Milhench after the demise of the Humberside Hawks, owned by Humberside County Council which ceased to exist after local govern-ment reorganisation last March. The council was said to have overspent its budget

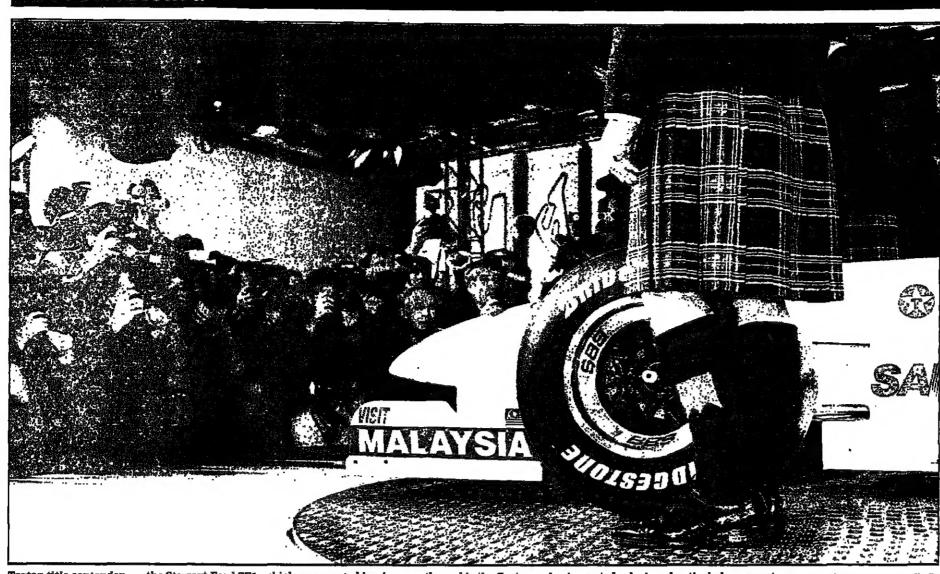
the company will be put into

Dell to go in Southampton takeover, page 14 Knight century lifts England, page 14

Cambridge supreme at Twickenham, page 15 Sports Academy shortlist named, page 15

# ortsGuardian





# Stewart races back into the fast lane

# Debutant GP team up and running in double quick time

**Alan Henry** 

ACKIE STEWART set new millennium when he unveiled his team's first grand prix car in London

created in only nine months | Keynes headquarters." and is the first Formula One car to be designed entirely by computer. It is powered by the will make its debut in the first | table, keep to the budget and | back-up, means that Fi's most

race of the 1997 campaign in assemble so much in such a melbourne on March 9. assemble so much in such a relatively short period of time. Melbourne on March 9. "The task of creating a new car from scratch in such a short time was formidable," championship for the said Stewart. "To the best of

my knowledge this is the first Formula One car to have been designed by computer, there is not one conventional draw-The Stewart-Ford SF1 was ing board at our Milton

Stewart's son Paul, the team's managing director said: "It has been an enormous latest Ford V10 engine and challenge to plan the time-

The drivers are Jan Mag-nussen of Denmark and In many ways it has been

the 57-year-old three-times world champion that Stewart Grand Prix have attracted a group of sponsors — uniquely including the Malaysian gov-ernment, and no tobacco company - who have already put up a total of £15 million. This, combined with a five-year deal for works Ford engines and all associated technical

Down

salad (6)

(4,4,4)

1 Dine out, with barely-

6 Tight one over this band? (5)

festation of Christmas (5.3) 8 Form the core of a ten-clue

7 Bow with ocular mani-

11 Straight man seeing Eros

15 ... Polish thesis demon-strating the 11 Chopin (9)

16 Henley's commander loses

encompasses the heir-apparent (8)

a turn to a countryman (8)

exult with a ... (12)

17 Laing's analysis

recent years has secured its operational budget three success is built on the present and the future. We have got to season. "We are financially sound, fully equipped and ready to go," Stewart said. deliver for the Stewart-Ford team, in our time and at our own pace.
"I never promised a win in

Rubens Barrichello of Brazil, although Stewart said the ship when I was a driver. I team had been 48 hours away wanted to deliver the best I were really good enough we

'Negotiations went right down to the last couple of days, but I couldn't say we were disappointed because we expected him to go to Jordan. I found it surprising that he eventually went to TWR Arrows. Yet perhaps having the pressure of the reigning world champion in our team would have given us too much to cope with."

been a greater challenge, more complicated and more difficult than just being a driver." He paid tribute to the team's technical director Alan Jenkins and to Paul Stewart. 'It has been particu-larly nice to undertake this programme with my own flesh and blood. I really don't think I would have done it without Paul."

a grand prix or a champion-

would win a championship.

That's what we have to do

again, but in a much more

complicated environment.
"Winning three world

championships at the wheel sometimes seemed easy com-

pared with the challenge of

building our own team. It has

Stewart's alliance with Ford represents the continua-tion of his 32-year liaison with the company. "This part-

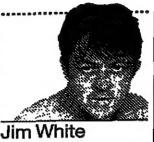
Stewart is reticent about said Ford's European motor-the car's potential. "A reputa-tion is built on the past, but taker. "Since Michael Schumacher's 1994 world championship victory in the Benetton-Ford I think the company had lost some of the impetus behind its Formula One involvement. We have had two years in the wilder-

ness and now we have the chance with Stewart to seri-



become recommitted to F1," | tempered by patience

# Ruck'n' maul all the way to the bar



HE University Match took place yesterday. For logistical reasons which will soon become apparent, this column was filed before kick-off. However it is possible to bring you the score: 75,000 Bloody Marys, 150,000 pints of bitter, 12,500 gallons of lager, 6,500 bottles of end, about half a mile of hot dogs. Somewhere in the middle of that, though very few of those in attendance will have noticed, 30 students

played rugby. No one is quite sure why a junior match once watched by a couple of thousand die-hards and the Oxford fly-half's dog of London's biggest collective drink-in of the year. All we know is that in 1975 the event was dying. There was even talk that, in the same way that the University football match found itself squeezed out of Wembley, the game might be expelled from Twickenham

altogether. Then Bowring, the City insurers, agreed to sponsor the event and pump in some much-needed funds (£175,000 this year). Bowring used the occasion both to promote itself within the universities for recruitment purposes (last year's Oxford captain Tyrone Howe, for instance, is now working for the company) and

o entertain its clients. Indeed, as a barometer for the way corporate hospitality equals. In 1976 Bowring entertained 60 guests to lunch in a Fulham restaurant before the game; this year there were about 300 of them in Twickenham's magnificent new Rose

By 1986, for no apparent reason, the match had grown into a sell-out, the car-parks around Twickenham bristling with the well entertained. So why was Bowring suddenly joined by most of the rest of the City of London? Why is it that now a game between two university sides can attract a full house whereas for a spectacle such as England against the New Zealand Barbarians there were more gaps in the South stand than in a seven-

"I think it's because a lot of City people went to the universities and want to support their old teams," says Carol

Bowring, the sponsor's PR di-

rector. "Also I think now people find it a breath of fresh air, the chance to see a fully amateur game in the midst of an uncertain world." It's not, then, anything to do with marking the start of the

Nothing to do with the chance for a legitimate midweek skive? "Not at all," says Ms Bow ring, who is so committed to the fixture that she sleeps with the trophy under her bed the night before the game. "That's just a myth. These are rugby people enjoying a great

rugby occasion." Clearly Ms Bowring's view

Christmas drinking season?

from the Rose Room was so what different from mine the last time I went. In fact, perched in the vertiginous upper reaches of one of the new stands, I saw very little of the game, my sight of the pro-ceedings being continually in-terrupted by the row of Father Christmases in front of me. Every two minutes the entire line of merry men would stand to allow a Santa the chance to get out to empty his bladder. By half-time three of the St Nicks were asleep, on had contrived to flush his beard down the loo, and another was nursing a slapped cheek after he suggested to a woman in the crowd that she might like to come home and help him unwrap a few Christmas surprises.

Like most of the crowd, my day had begun at the Alma pub in Wandsworth at 11am. This was clearly the place that executives of the Barbour coat company go to watch their profits pass by. The place was awash with waxed cotton: apparently, as with Newcastle fans and replica shirts, not to wear a Barbour to the Varsity match is to show you don't really belong. At about 1pm the pub emptied, its occupants swimming to Twickenham.

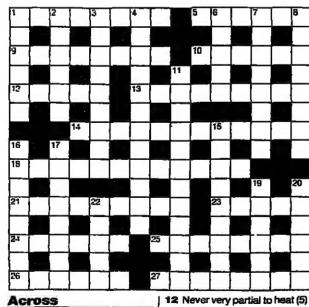
HE thing I couldn't get the ground, was the noise: a constant barking bray as if 75,000 seals were migrating to their mating grounds. Everywhere you looked there were Barbours staggering, Barbours snooz-ing on public benches, a couple of Barbours had ceased to talk English altogether and were conversing in what they assumed was Swahlli. Not once, however, in this mael-strom did I see a Barbour act

n a remotely violent fashion. It would be unfair, though, to suggest that no one was interested in the competitive elements of the day. After the game had passed in a swirl, I asked a Barbour I encountered outside the ground if he had any idea who had won.

"Course, matey," he barked. "It was Big Henry: 14 pints of Wadworth's and a kebab and he still wants to go back to the Alma for more."

#### Guardian Crossword No 20,833

Set by Bunthome



- 1 One's addressed in French on Tour de France bike training (8) 5 Shark is about Pope's
- essay? (3,3) 9 See 13 10 No stress: not in Langley's
- 13,9,14 So disenchanted, bored to the teeth, things aren't the way they could be (4,5,4,4,3,3,1-5) 14 Sec 13
  - 18 Goal thus achieved after a postal strike! (2,3,7)

- 23,21 Sow dissension on all sides (3-2-3-6) 24 Anti-poetical state, in a way stashed (3-5) 26 Ruth Rendell's first getting the bird (6) 27 Scripture class absorbing a Richardsonian epic (8)
  - RD SOLUTION 20,83 committed vegetarian on 19 Frights from fruit (6) 20 North America rounds on a

2 Grapes here in quite leg up from Brazil (6) outstanding condition (6) 22 Dr Seuss is involved with 3 Homeliest form of elastic (9) raising children (5) 4 What 5 might do a-24,21

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### Australians hit all the wrong notes David Plummer on an ill-judged move

to keep cricket's spectators entertained

that gave armchair cricket lovers the sight of Waddles the duck accom panying non-scoring bats-men back to the pavilion, often while Tony Greig screamed "Goodnight Charlie" into the nearest microphone, has had second thoughts about its latest gimmick to brighten up games for paying spectators. When the Australians played West Indies in World

week, the visiting batsmen were surprised to hear the strains of Hit the Road, Jack, Return to Sender, and played over the Tannoy as they headed for the pavilion. And there was no musi-cal accompaniment when the Australians themselves made the long walk.

Yesterday's Melbourne on positive aspects of the Age contained a swingeing game. "We found that it was editorial about this, and the not appropriate because

Australian Cricket Board | there was a risk these songs later said the practice would | could be misunderstood. We be dropped because it might be considered unsporting.

"There used to be ... polite applause as batsmen began their long walk back to the pavilion. Now there are bursts of amplified pop music, apparently selected with intimidation or humiliation in mind," wrote the

Age's leader writer. The ACB's marketing manager David Fouvy said the tunes were being dropped to put the emphasis

did not want there to be any

chance it might be seen as gloating." Queen's We Will Rock. You will still be used, though, as will the voice of the cartoon character

For next summer's Ashes series, maybe England should consider blasting Colonel Bogey through the Lord's Tannoy as the Aus-sies depart the middle. And the voice of Mr Magoo might be appropriate as England's batsmen make the long walk.

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